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JANUARY
No. 676

WALT DISNEY'S COMICS

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WALT DISNEY'S COMICS AND STORIES

Welcome to our New Year's edition of *Walt Disney's Comics and Stories.* Our latest Pat and Carol McGreal Donald and Mickey crossover epic concludes this issue with a tale set, coincidentally enough, on New Year's Eve. We also feature a nice Donald story by Marco Rota which is also set on New Year's Eve. How can Donald participate in both of these adventures at the same time, you ask? Ah, that's part of the magic of the never-never land of comics.

Our classic reprints this time around include Scamp by Al Hubbard—a feature that is proving to be popular with our readers—and part two of "Mickey Mouse Joins the Foreign Legion," a seldom-seen Floyd Gottfredson tale.

You'll note that this and the previous volume of *WDC&S* is a little more Mickey-heavy than the norm. That's because our recent decision to suspend some of our series necessitated moving "The Protector of Shambor" from one of those titles to this book. By doing that, we avoided having to leave anyone hanging with an unconcluded serial. Next issue will contain the last installment of "Shambor." After that things will get "back to normal."

—*John Clark*

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Walt Disney's

DONALD DUCK & MICKEY MOUSE in NEW YEAR'S NIGHTMARE

CHAPTER ONE

PART 7 OF THE ORB SAGA

IT'S NEW YEAR'S EVE, 2006! AND DAISY DUCK IS THROWING ONE HUMDINGER OF A PARTY!
HAPPY NEW YEAR 2007
WHAT A GREAT BASH, TOOTS! EVERYBODY WHO'S ANYBODY IS BEATING DOWN THE DOOR TO GET IN!
AND THEN SOME, DONALD! YOU SEE, I'VE INVITED A COUPLE OF VERY SPECIAL GUESTS TONIGHT!
PARDON ME, PAL! MAY I CUT IN ON THIS DANCE?
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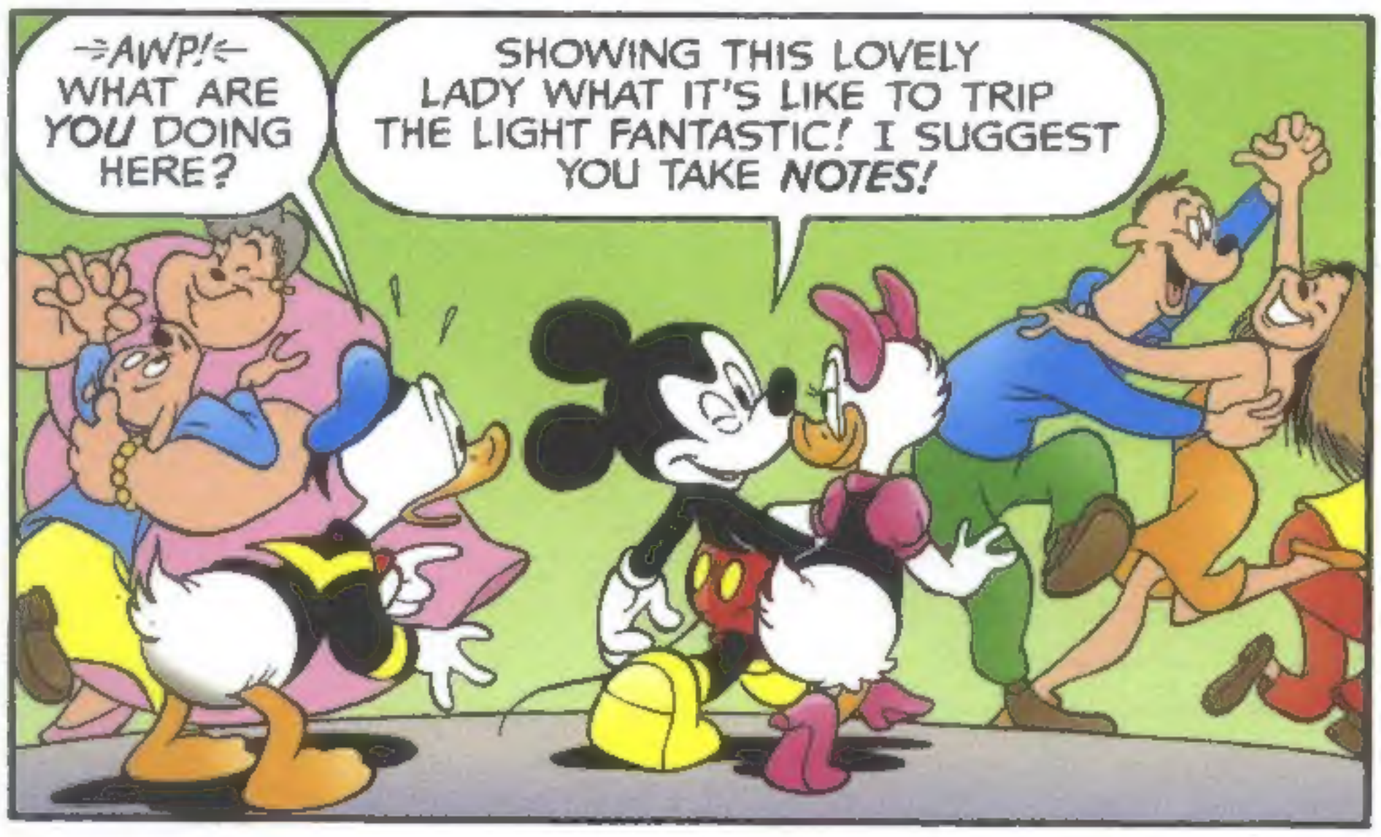
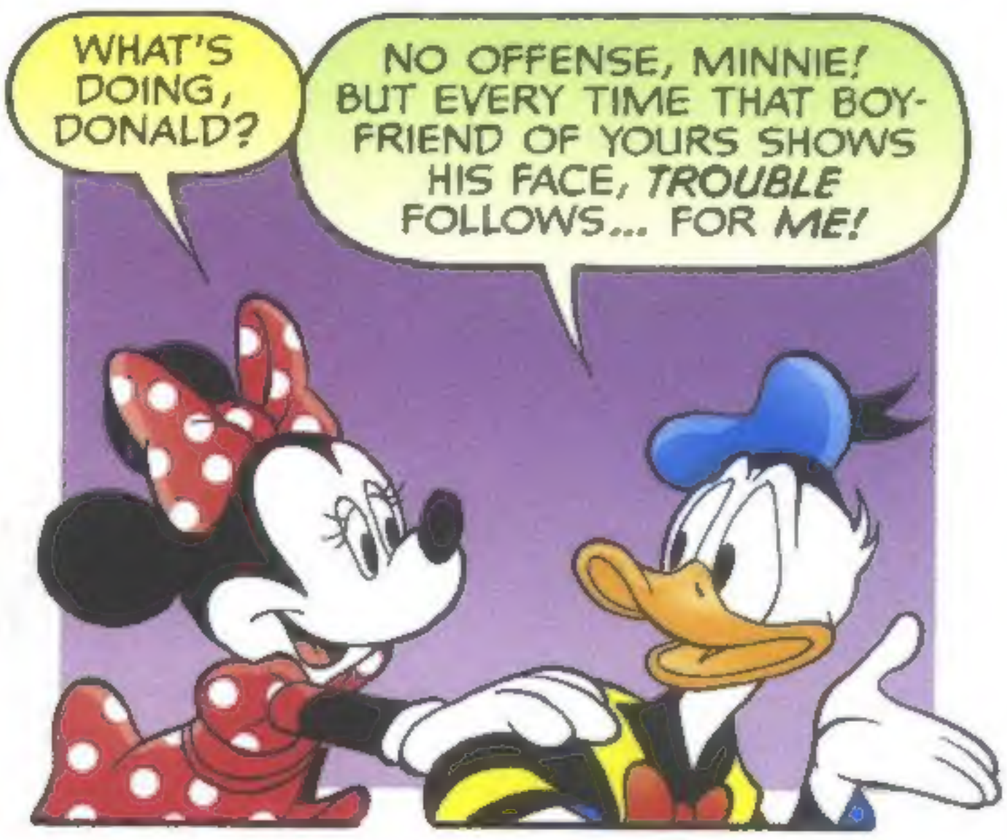
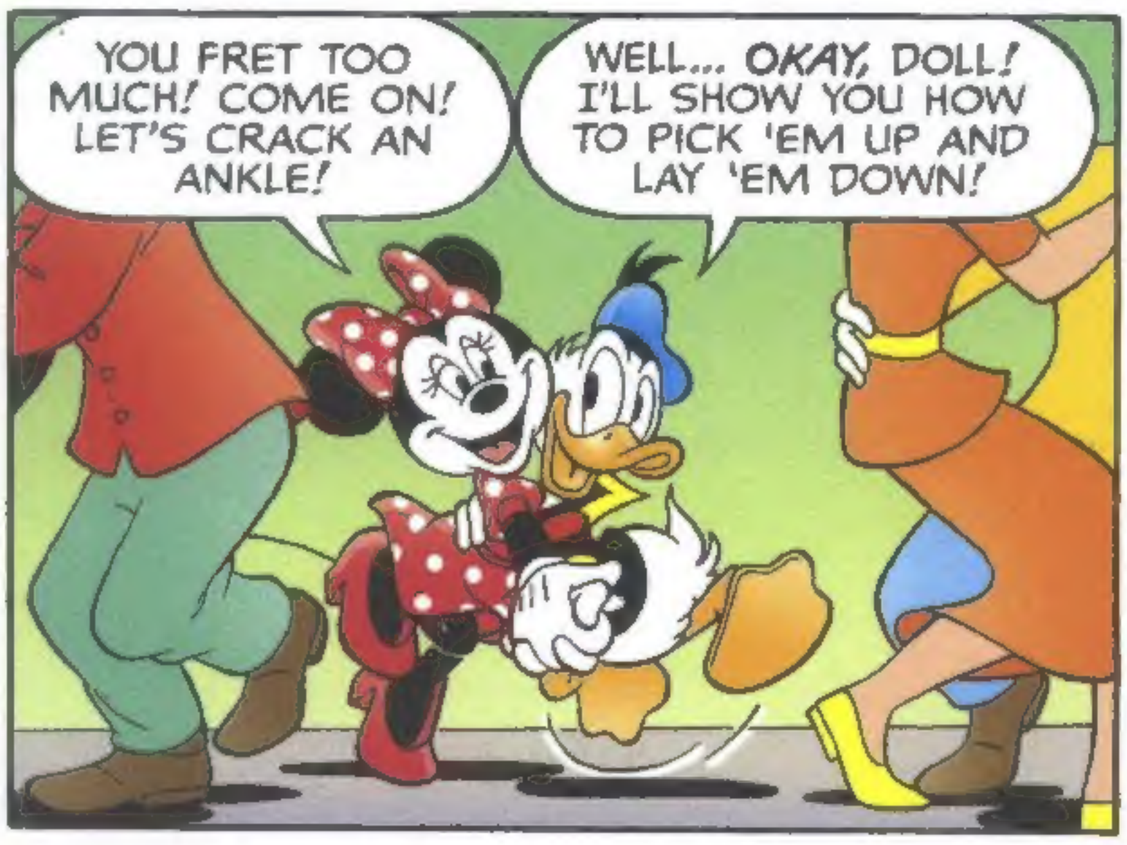
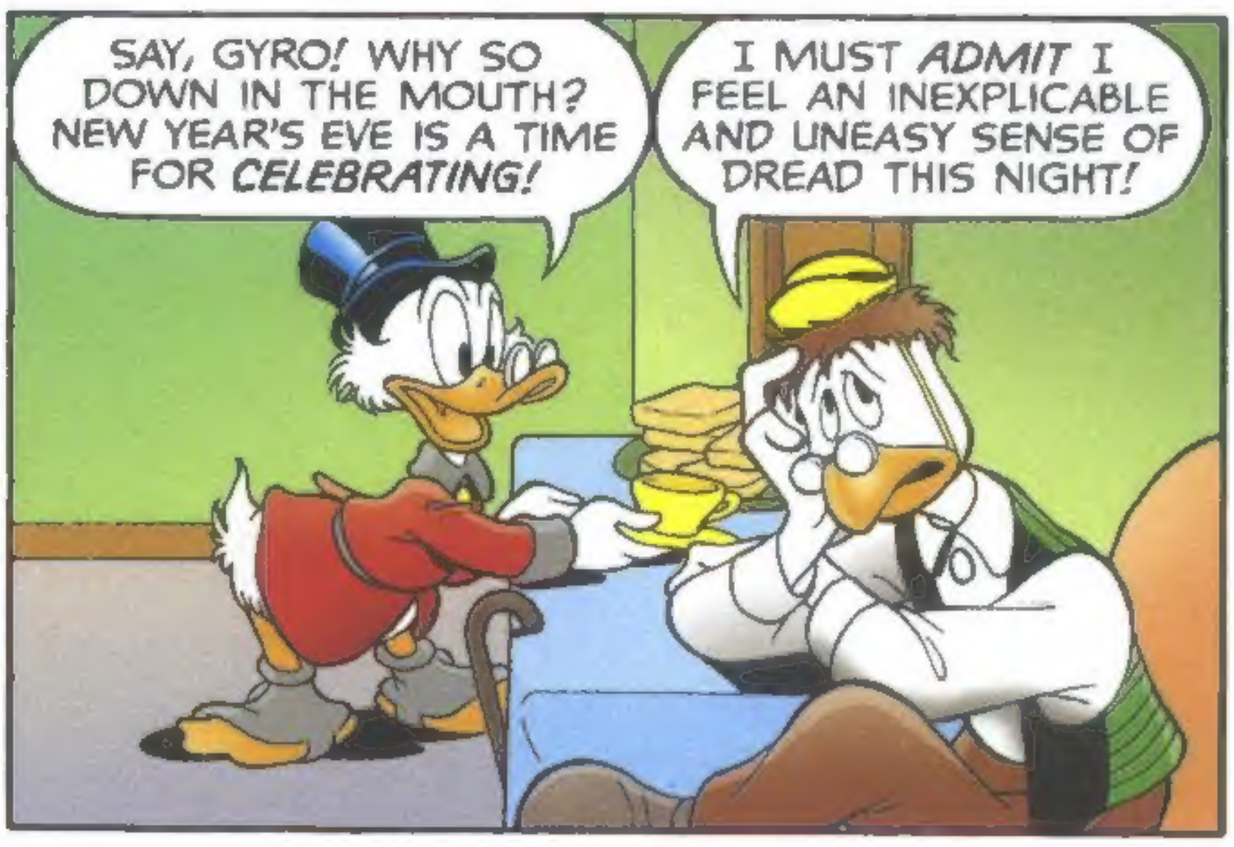







SAY, GYRO! WHY SO DOWN IN THE MOUTH? NEW YEAR'S EVE IS A TIME FOR CELEBRATING!
I MUST ADMIT I FEEL AN INEXPLICABLE AND UNEASY SENSE OF DREAD THIS NIGHT!

IT'S LIKE I'VE *FORGOTTEN* SOMETHING IMPORTANT, BUT CAN'T QUITE PUT MY FINGER ON IT!

'SCUSE ME, FELLERS!

WOULD YUH SNAP MUH *PITCHER* BEFORE I HEAD OUT TUH TH' DANCE FLOOR? I AIM TUH CUT A RUG TONIGHT!

GO AHEAD! CLICK AWAY! I'M AT TH' TOP O' MUH FORM!

FLASH!

GAWRSH! THAT BULB WAS BRIGHT! CAN'T SEE NOTHIN' 'CEPT *SPOTS!*

MIND IF'N I CUT IN ON THIS DANCE?

GOLLY, MISS! YUH SURE CAN *SHAKE* A SHIMBA!

HEH HEH!

LEGGO OF ME, YOU BIG *LUMMOX!*

GOOFY! YOU'VE MADE A MISTAKE! LET ME—

WAL, I LIKE *THAT,* MICK! I BARELY GET STARTED AN' YOU WANT YER TURN! *FINE!*

GRR! NOW I SUPPOSE *YOU* WANT TO LEAD!

AW, SHUT UP AN' GO WITH THE FLOW!

Oh, GYRO...! REMEMBER THOSE TWO MYSTERIOUS *ORBS* WE GAVE YOU TO STUDY?

WHAT WERE YOUR FINDINGS? WHAT DID YOU DISCOVER?

ORBS?

THAT'S *IT!! THAT'S* WHAT I'VE FORGOTTEN! *THE ORBS!*

WHY, YOU SILLY! HOW ABSENT-MINDED OF YOU!

YES! IT'S STARTING TO COME BACK! I UNLOCKED THE SECRET OF THOSE SPHERES WITH THE VIBRATIONS OF A TUNING FORK! BUT... MY MEMORY'S STILL HAZY!

⇒SIGH!⇐ I DISCOVERED *SOMETHING* MOMENTOUS!

IS HE TALKING ABOUT THOSE *WEIRD* ORBS? THE ONES THAT WERE SUPERNATURALLY ATTRACTED TO DONALD AND ME?

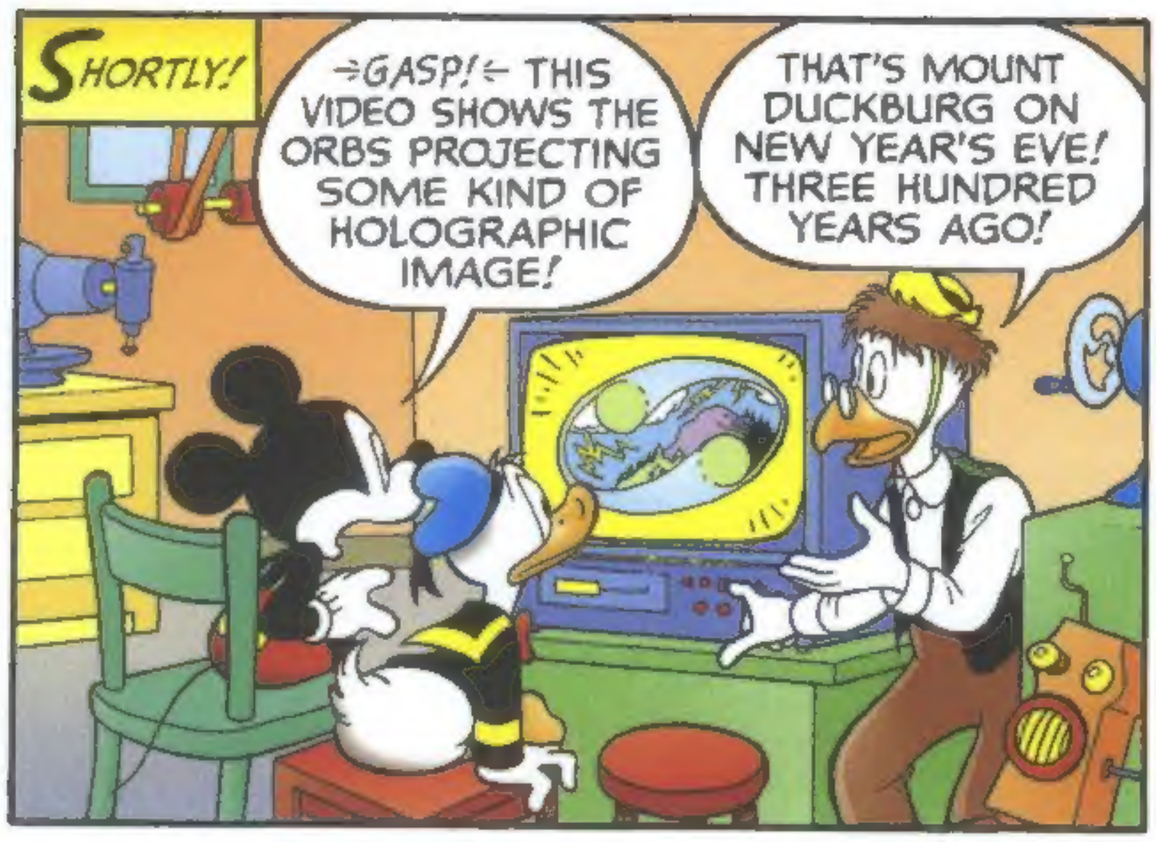
WAIT A MINUTE, GYRO! DON'T YOU ALWAYS *VIDEOTAPE* YOUR EXPERIMENTS?

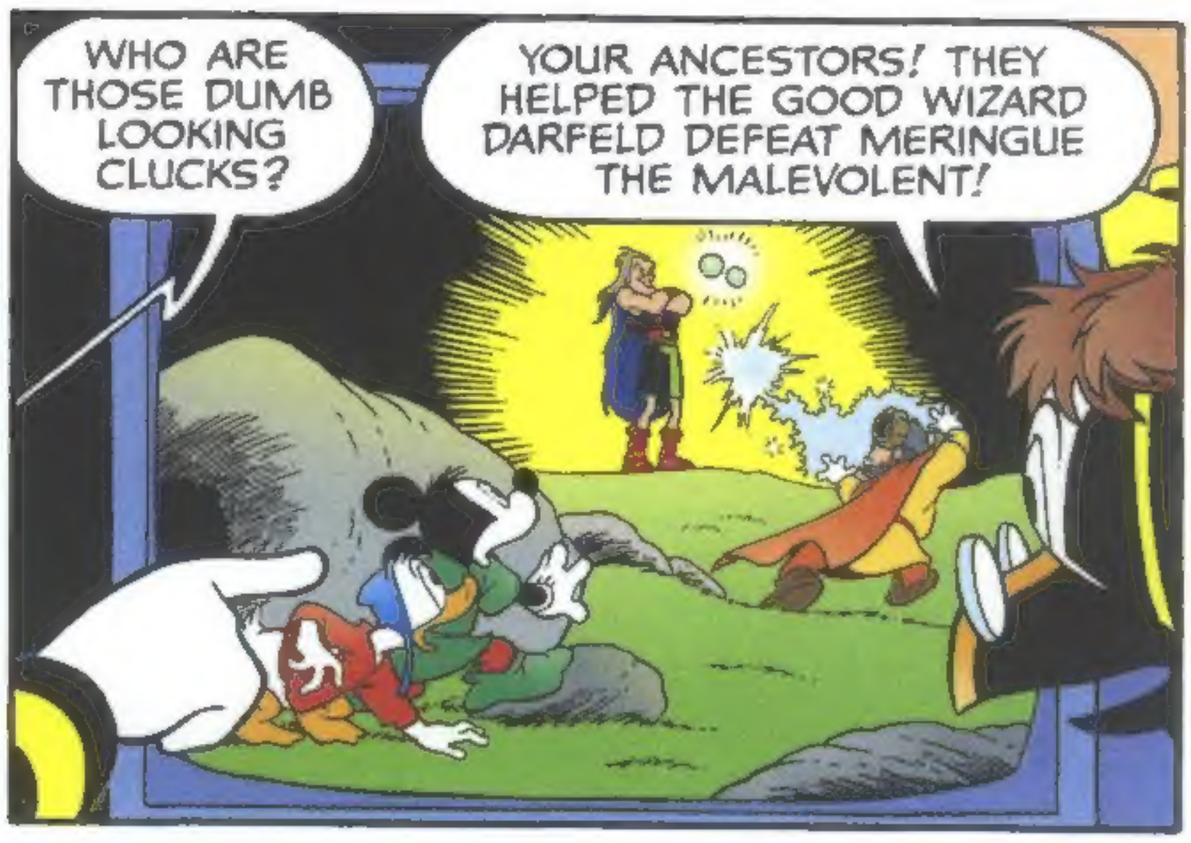
THAT'S RIGHT! I JUST HAVE TO REWIND THE TAPE TO LEARN WHAT I... Uh... *LEARNED!*

⇒HMMM!⇐ EVER SINCE WE FOUND 'EM, THERE'S BEEN SOMETHING DISTINCTLY *FISHY* ABOUT THOSE ORBS! I SMELL A REAL *MYSTERY!*

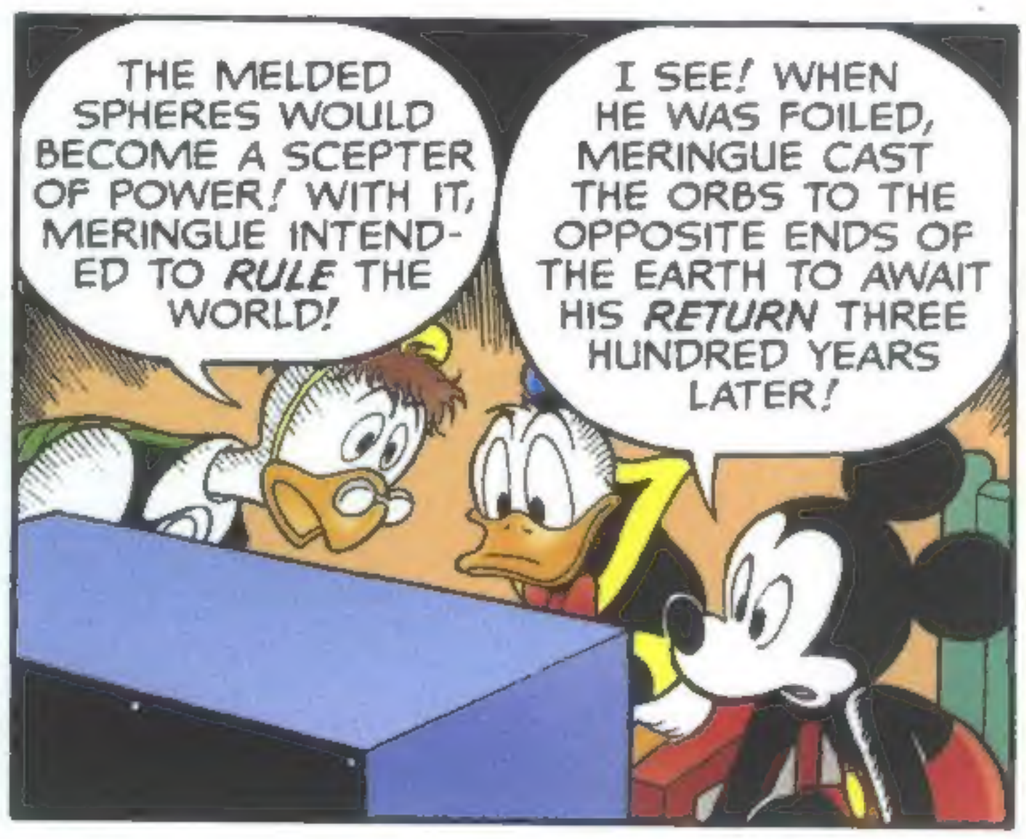
C'MON, GYRO! LET'S CHECK OUT THAT TAPE RIGHT NOW!

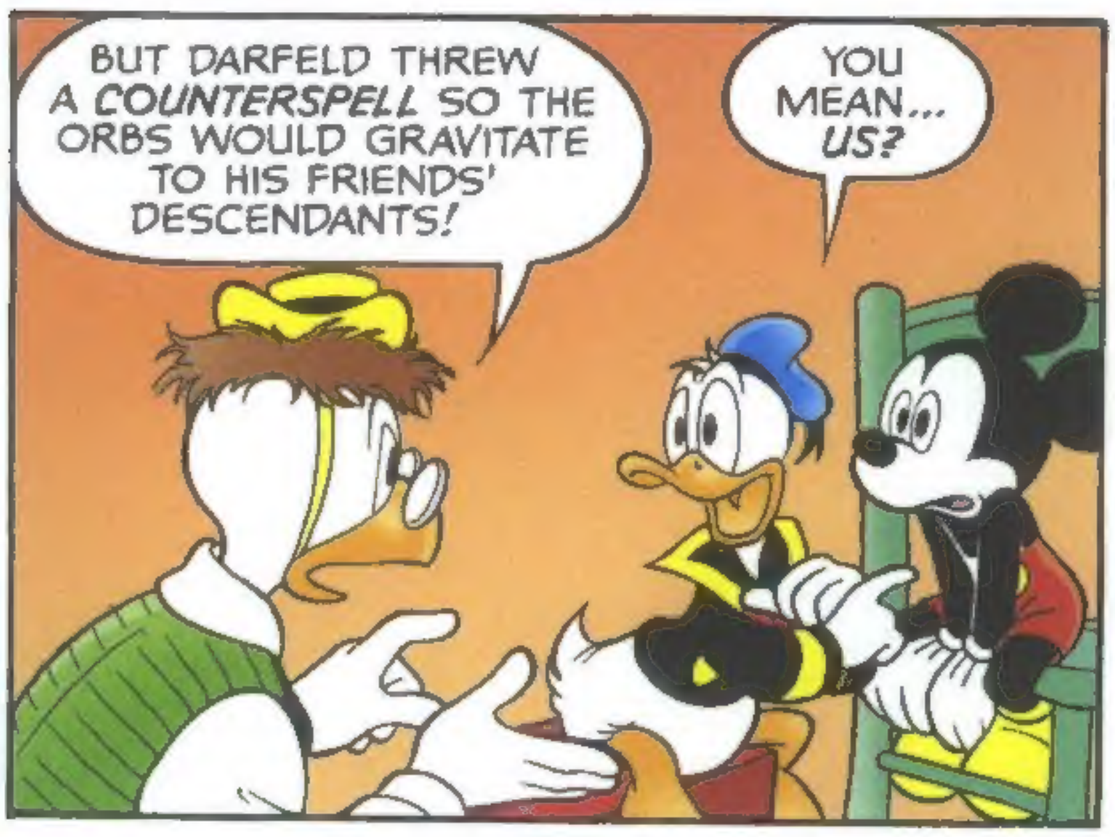
DAISY, KEEP A FIRE BURNING UNDER THIS PARTY! WE'LL BE BACK IN A COUPLE OF TICS!

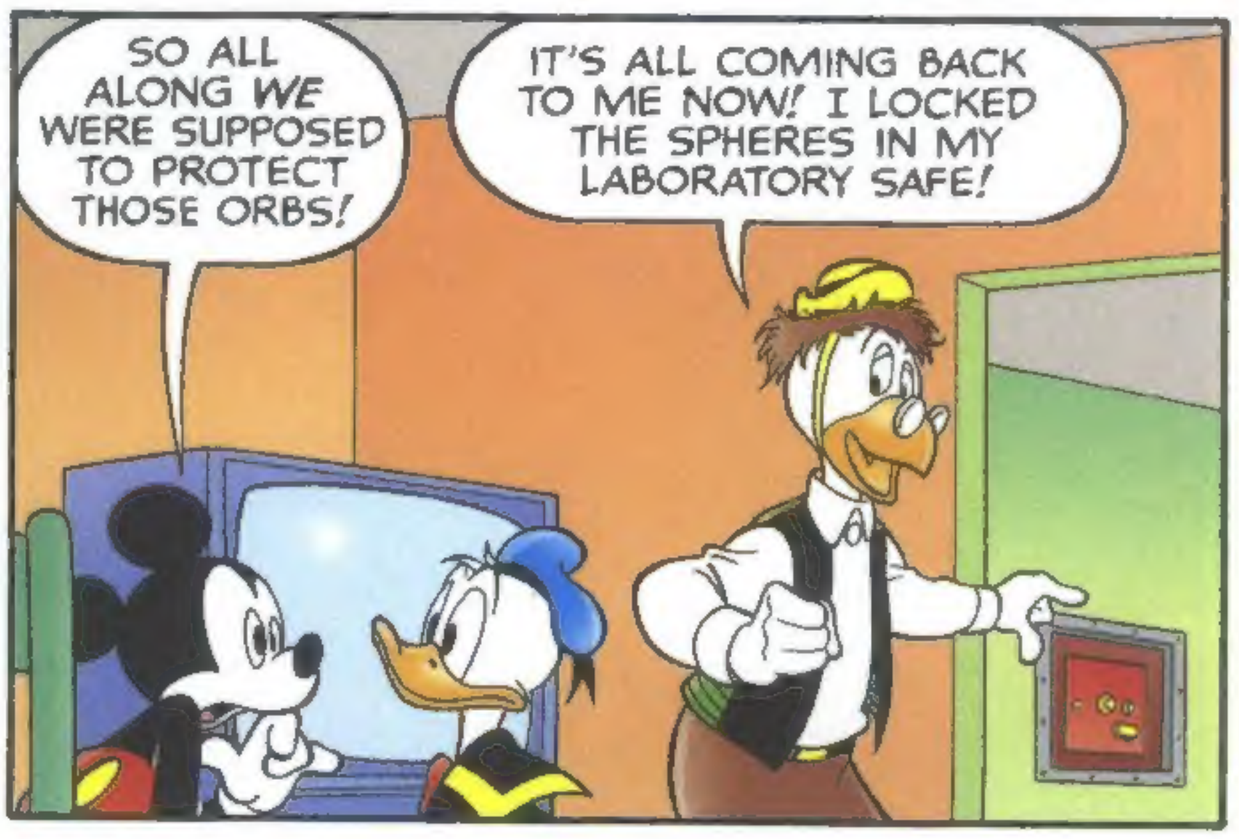

SHORTLY!
⇒GASP!⇐ THIS VIDEO SHOWS THE ORBS PROJECTING SOME KIND OF HOLOGRAPHIC IMAGE!
THAT'S MOUNT DUCKBURG ON NEW YEAR'S EVE! THREE HUNDRED YEARS AGO!

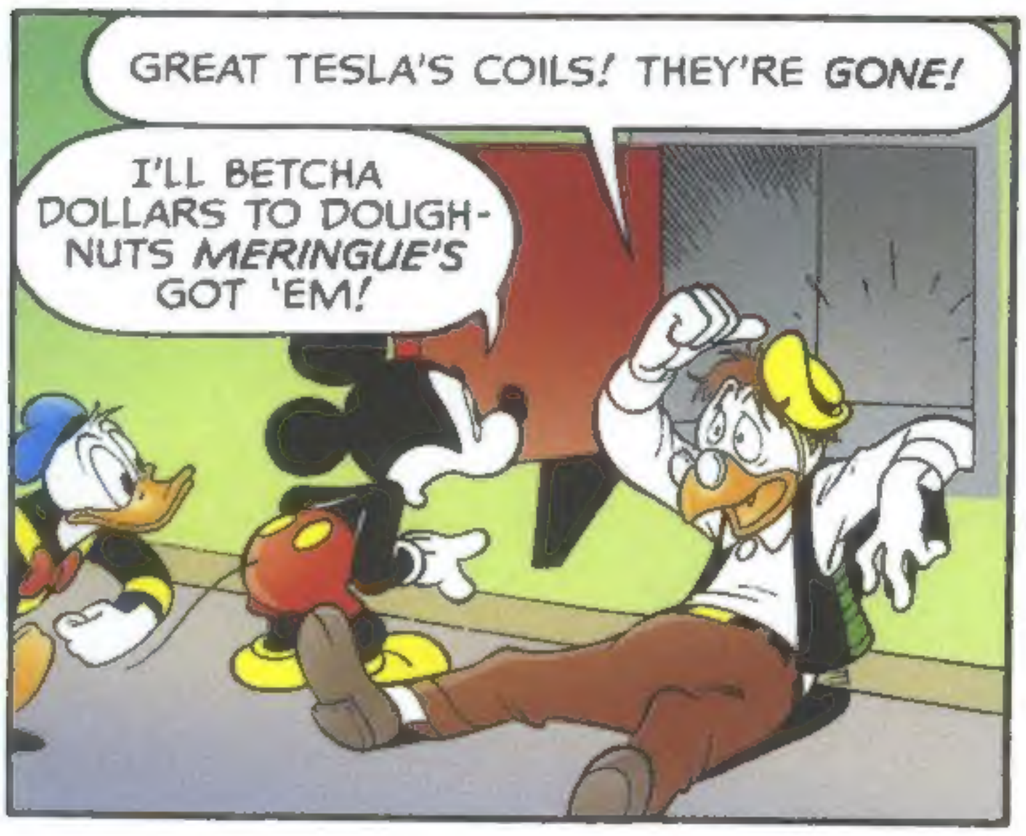

WHO ARE THOSE DUMB LOOKING CLUCKS?
YOUR ANCESTORS! THEY HELPED THE GOOD WIZARD DARFELD DEFEAT MERINGUE THE MALEVOLENT!

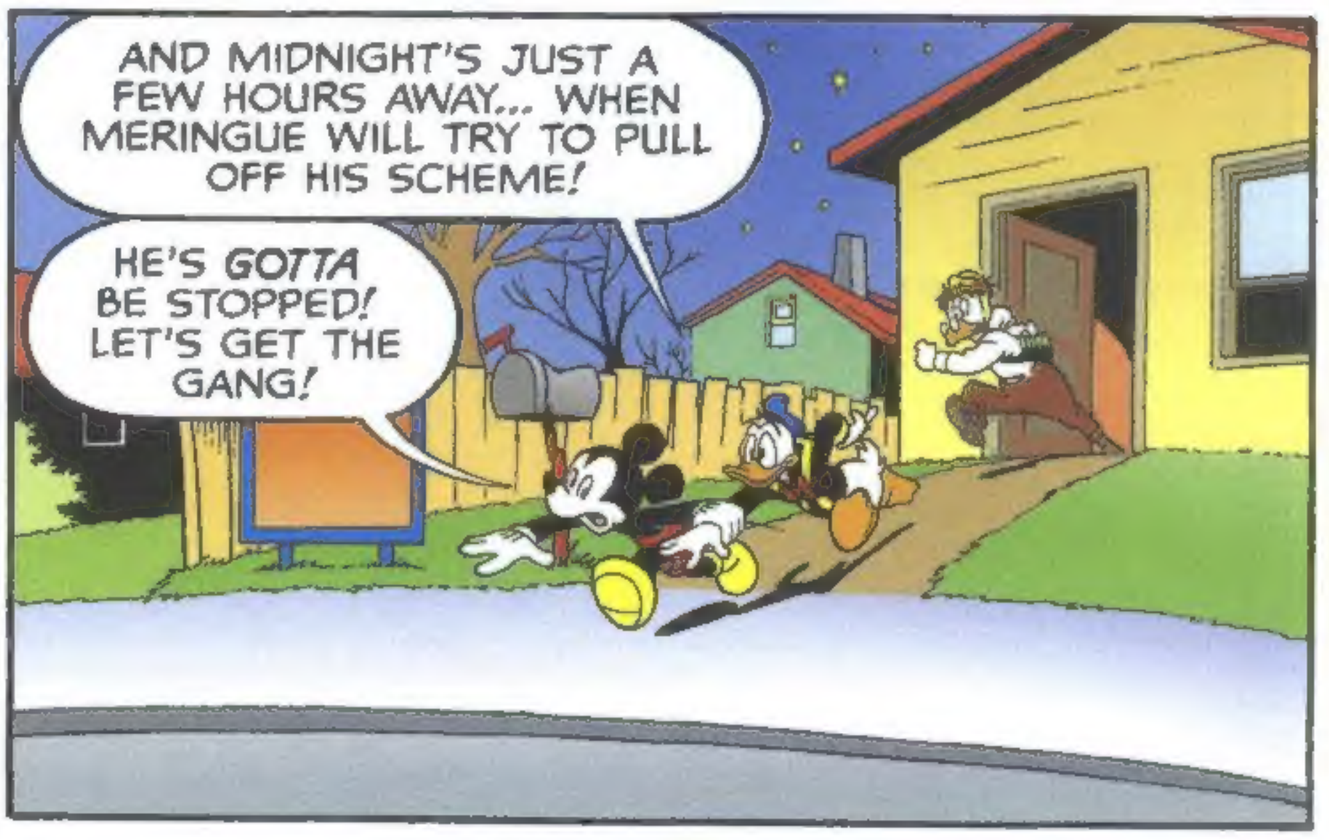
MERINGUE PLANNED TO MAGICALLY MELD THE ORBS TOGETHER AT THE START OF A NEW YEAR, WHEN ELEMENTAL FORCES WERE AT THEIR ZENITH!


THE MELDED SPHERES WOULD BECOME A SCEPTER OF POWER! WITH IT, MERINGUE INTENDED TO *RULE* THE WORLD!
I SEE! WHEN HE WAS FOILED, MERINGUE CAST THE ORBS TO THE OPPOSITE ENDS OF THE EARTH TO AWAIT HIS *RETURN* THREE HUNDRED YEARS LATER!


BUT DARFELD THREW A *COUNTERSPELL* SO THE ORBS WOULD GRAVITATE TO HIS FRIENDS' DESCENDANTS!
YOU MEAN... *US?*


SO ALL ALONG *WE* WERE SUPPOSED TO PROTECT THOSE ORBS!
IT'S ALL COMING BACK TO ME NOW! I LOCKED THE SPHERES IN MY LABORATORY SAFE!


GREAT TESLA'S COILS! THEY'RE *GONE!*
I'LL BETCHA DOLLARS TO DOUGHNUTS *MERINGUE'S* GOT 'EM!


AND MIDNIGHT'S JUST A FEW HOURS AWAY... WHEN MERINGUE WILL TRY TO PULL OFF HIS SCHEME!
HE'S *GOTTA* BE STOPPED! LET'S GET THE GANG!

MEANWHILE... IN A DOWNTOWN DEPARTMENT STORE!

THIS IMPRESSIVE MODERN TIMEPIECE IS JUST WHAT I REQUIRE TO CLOCK THE MIDNIGHT HOUR!

⇒HMM!⇐ H-HOW COME *THESE* FOLKS DON'T SEE US FOR WHO WE ARE, MERINGUE?

176-761

176-671

FOR THE SAME REASON *YOU* CRIMINAL DOLTS ARE HELD IN MY THRALL! A MAGICAL *SPELL!*

SIR?! WE'RE CLOSING! NEW YEAR'S EVE, YOU KNOW!

I'M *SURE* YOU'LL AGREE TO KEEP YOUR ESTABLISHMENT OPEN A BIT LONGER... FOR *ME!*

...YES... OF COURSE...

PING!

Ah! THE EARTH IS *FULLY-MAPPED* IN 2006!

AND ITS *SIZE* DETERMINED, TURTLE DOVE! IT'S *BIG* ENOUGH TO REQUIRE *DOZENS* OF TIME ZONES!

HOW *SCRUMPTIOUS!* CONQUERING THE KNOWN WORLD OF 1706 WAS SMALL CHANGE COMPARED TO *THIS!*

COME, MINIONS! TIME TO BEGIN OUR ASCENT OF MOUNT DUCKBURG! AND I *WON'T* ABIDE ANY FOUL-UPS THIS TIME!

WAITING AROUND INSIDE A MOUNTAIN FOR THREE CENTURIES WAS INCREDIBLY *BORING!* I'LL *NEVER* DO IT AGAIN!

176-167

HERE, MY CRIMINAL CORPS, I TAKE MY LEAVE OF YOU...

THE TRAIL SPLITS INTO THREE DIFFERENT PATHS! BEAGLE BOYS! GUARD THE FIRST ONE!

YOU GOT IT, BOSS!

MAGICA TO THE SECOND PATH AND THE PHANTOM BLOT TO THE THIRD!

YES, LOVE!

GUARD THE TRAILS! STOP *ANYONE* WHO TRIES TO ASCEND THE MOUNTAIN! *ESPECIALLY* THE DESCENDANTS OF THAT PESKY MOUSE AND DUCK, SHOULD THEY HAPPEN TO SHOW UP!

I MUST BE *PROTECTED* AT ALL COSTS UNTIL THE MIDNIGHT HOUR!

NOW RISE, ORBS! *RISE!* LET THE MYSTICAL DANCE COMMENCE! ENCIRCLE EACH OTHER LIKE THERE WAS NO TOMORROW!

GIVE TO ME THE POWER *INVINCIBLE!* THE DAWN OF THE NEW YEAR IS *FAST* APPROACHING!

FARTHER DOWN THE MOUNTAIN!

→UH-OH!← THE TRAIL DIVIDES HERE, GANG! MAYBE WE'D BETTER SPLIT UP!

GOOD IDEA, MICK!

BLACK FOREST

DOWN

UP

BLACK FOREST

DOWN

COME ON, GYRO! LET'S YOU AND I TAKE THE FIRST PATH!

RIGHT, MR. McDUCK!

SHALL *WE* SCOUT OUT THE SECOND PATH, MINNIE?

WISH US LUCK, MICKEY!

I GUESS THAT LEAVES *US* TO CHECK OUT THE LAST TRAIL!

GAWRSH! THREE PALS TOGETHER AGAIN ON A RIP-ROARIN' ADVENTURE! JUS' LIKE TH' OLD DAYS!

BEFORE LONG!

I DON'T SEE ANYONE, MR. McDUCK, BUT I'VE GOT A *FUNNY* FEELING...

I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN, LAD! WE'RE BEING WATCHED!

NOW! IN THE NAME OF OUR MASTER MERINGUE! GET THEM!

THE BEAGLE BOYS?

176-167

176-671

→HRMPH!← I CAME UP HERE TO BATTLE A WILY WIZARD! NOT A BUNCH OF BUMBLING *BURGLARS!*

AWK!

176-671

WHUMP!
LOOK OUT!!
OOOF!
WATCHIT!
MY NOODLE SCRAMBLER WILL TEMPORARILY PLAY *TIDDLYWINKS* WITH THEIR BRAINPANS!
I WONDER WHO *ELSE* MERINGUE HAS WORKING FOR HIM?
⇒GLEEP!⇐
BZZZ!
WHO, INDEED?
LOOK OUT! IT'S MAGICA DE SPELL!
FOOF!
FOOF!
INTERLOPERS! MY LOVER-BOY MERINGUE *DOESN'T* WANT TO BE *DISTURBED!*
THIS'LL KEEP YOU HUSSIES AWAY FROM *MY* BOY-FRIEND!
⇒PSST!⇐ DAISY! SHE'S UNDER SOME KIND OF *LOVE* TRANCE!
MAYBE WE CAN SNAP HER OUT OF IT WITH A LITTLE PSYCH-OLOGY...
I'LL BET YOUR BOYFRIEND CARES FOR YOU A LOT, MAGICA!
MY DONALD IS *VERY* SWEET, TOO! HE GAVE ME THE MOST *BEAUTI-FUL ORB* FOR OUR ANNIVERSARY!
WHAT A COINCIDENCE! MY MICKEY ALSO GAVE *ME* AN ORB!
WHAT HAS *YOUR* BOYFRIEND GIVEN YOU, MAGICA?
WHY, MERINGUE HASN'T GIVEN ME ANYTHING! HE HAS *TWO* OF THOSE BEAUTIFUL ORBS, AND HE'S KEPT THEM BOTH FOR *HIMSELF!*
GRR! THAT CAD HAS DONE NOTHING BUT *USE* ME! IT'S HIGH TIME I HAD A *WORD* WITH MR. MERINGUE!

HIGHER UP THE SLOPE!

CRIMINY! LOOK AT THE LIGHTNING! MERINGUE'S PULLING OUT ALL THE STOPS!

M-MAYBE WE'D BETTER GO BACK AND CALL THE CAVALRY!

SHUCKS, DONALD! YUH AIN'T AFRAID O' A LITTLE *WEATHER*, ARE YUH?!

BOOOM!

HOLY CANNOLI! THERE'S SOMEONE *ELSE* SNEAKING UP TO THE SUMMIT! IS THAT WHO I THINK IT IS?

THE *BLOT!* I MIGHT HAVE KNOWN *YOU'D* BE IN ON THIS!

YOU?! IF YOU *MUST* KNOW, I'M *NOT* "IN ON THIS"!

THAT FOOL MERINGUE MERELY *THINKS* I'M UNDER HIS SPELL! HAH! I WANT THOSE ORBS FOR *MYSELF!*

YIPE! THAT'S JUST AS *BAD!* STOP HIM!

YOU AN' DONALD GO AFTER TH' WIZARD! *I'LL* TAKE CARE O' BLOTTY!

BUT GOOFY! WHAT CAN *YOU* DO?!

SAY *CHEESE,* MR. BLOT!

FLASH!

=EEP!= I CAN'T *SEE!*

FOR A SLOW-WITTED GUY, GOOFY'S AN AWFUL QUICK THINKER!

FLASH! FLASH! FLASH!

NOW THERE'S *NOTHING* BETWEEN US AND MERINGUE THE MALEVOLENT!

ALL RIGHT! HOLD IT RIGHT THERE, BUSTER!

AH! YOU TWO MUST BE THE DESCENDANTS OF THOSE MEDDLING FARMERS!

YOU SHOULD HAVE STAYED *HOME* ON THIS PORTENTOUS NEW YEAR'S EVE!

YOU'LL *NEVER* GET AWAY WITH IT, MERINGUE!

BAH! DO YOUR *WORST!*

WHAT *ARE* WE GOING TO DO? IT JUST OCCURRED TO ME... WE DON'T HAVE A *PLAN!*

⇒HMM!⇐ NOTICE HOW HE'S *CONCEN-TRATING* TO MAKE THE ORBS STAY ALOFT? MAYBE HE CAN'T DE-FEND HIMSELF WITH HIS FULL POWER

GOTCHA! YOU GO AT HIM FROM *THAT* WAY AND I'LL GO *THIS* WAY!

RABBLE! DON'T COME A *STEP* CLOSER!

WHAT'S THE MATTER, HOTSHOT? CAN'T KEEP AN EYE ON BOTH OF US *AND* TWIRL YOUR MAGIC BALLS IN THE AIR?

YOU DON'T WORRY ME, INSIGNIFICANT GNATS! MIDNIGHT IS ALMOST HERE! *NOTHING* CAN DISTRACT ME FROM MY PURPOSE!

MERINGUE! YOU PLAYED MY HEARTSTRINGS UNTIL THEY SNAPPED! WELL, NO MORE, YOU SELFISH PIG!

MAGICA?

YOU HAVEN'T THE SLIGHTEST *CLUE* HOW TO TREAT A WOMAN, YOU... YOU *MAN!* TAKE *THAT!!*

PLEASE! YOU'RE *DIS-TRACTING* ME!

FOOF!

FOOF!

FOOF!

THE GAME'S UP, WIZARD! THOSE ORBS WILL BE *MINE* OR I'M NOT THE PHANTOM BLOT!

WHAT?! BUT YOU'RE UNDER MY *THRALL!*

FOOF!

FOOF!

GUESS AGAIN, ANTIQUE! I WAS JUST *BIDING* MY TIME!

...CONFUSED... CAN'T CON-CENTRATE...

DONALD! HE'S *LOSING* IT! *QUICK!*

SNATCH AN ORB AND *SKEDADDLE!*

RIGHT BEHIND YOU, MICK! WE JUST *MIGHT'VE* PULLED THIS OFF!

NO! THE ALARM ON MY TIMEPIECE! IT'S THE STROKE OF MIDNIGHT! THE NEW YEAR IS BEGINNING!

BEEP! BEEP!

KRAKA-

DOOOOM!

I'VE *MISSED* MY CHANCE! MERINGUE THE MALEVOLENT HAS BEEN *FOILED!*

THIS IS ALL *YOUR* FAULT! NOW TASTE THE *FULL FORCE* OF MY POWER! A SPELL THAT *FREEZES* YOU IN YOUR *TRACKS!*

YET PERHAPS ALL IS NOT LOST! ORBS! *COME TO ME!*

⇒*UGH!*⇐ HIS MAGIC IS STRONG! HOLD ON TIGHT, DONALD!

I... I *CAN'T*, MICKEY! SOME UNSEEN FORCE IS *WRENCHING* THE ORB RIGHT OUT OF MY HANDS!

SAME HERE!

WINDS OF TIME AND SPACE BE FANNED! TAKE ME TO ANOTHER LAND!

→*HAHH!*← I'LL TRANSPORT MYSELF TO THE *LAST* PLACE ON EARTH VISITED BY THE MIDNIGHT HOUR! AND *THERE* I WILL FULFILL MY DESTINY!

BA-BOOOM!

H-HE VANISHED INTO THIN AIR! AND HE'S *STILL* GOT THE ORBS!

THE MANIAC'S GONE TO THE LAST PLACE ON THE PLANET WHERE 2006 ENDS AND THE YEAR 2007 BEGINS! BUT WHERE *IS* THAT? AND *HOW* DO WE STOP HIM?

CONTINUED...

DISNEY'S DIMENSIONAL DOUBLES ARE BACK WITH MORE CRIME FIGHTING ACTION AND SUPER HEROIC SUSPENSE!

ON SALE NOW!

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Walt Disney

SCAMP

THE MIDNIGHT RAIDER

SHAME ON YOU, SCAMP! AFTER ALL I'VE TOLD YOU! CHEWING THE MASTER'S SLIPPER! JUST FOR THAT YOU'LL GO TO BED WITHOUT YOUR SUPPER!

AW, DON'T BE SO HARD ON HIM, PIDG! PUPS WILL BE PUPS! BESIDES, THAT'S AN OLD SLIPPER! I HEARD THE MASTER SAY TODAY HE WAS GOING TO THROW IT OUT.

W WDC 392-02

DON'T ENCOURAGE HIM! WELL-BRED DOGS DON'T CHEW SLIPPERS—ANY KIND OF SLIPPERS! NOW GO ON, SCAMP! TO BED!

OH, GOLLY!

GOING WITHOUT SUPPER CAN CAUSE PUPS TO DREAM OF GOOD THINGS TO EAT...

Z

IT CAN EVEN CAUSE PUPS TO WAKE UP IN THE NIGHT, AND...

I KNOW WHERE I CAN GET SOME TERRIFIC BONES! THE BACK DOOR OF JONES' MARKET!

MR. JONES ALWAYS PUTS SOME KEEN SCRAPS OUT IN HIS TRASH! I'LL GET OVER THERE AND GRAB A SNACK! MOM'LL NEVER FIND OUT!

MEANTIME...

POOR LITTLE GUY! HE'LL BE STARVING BY MORNING AND THERE ISN'T ANYTHING HERE I CAN SLIP TO HIM!

I'LL RUN OVER TO THE JONES MARKET AND FIND A NICE BONE FOR HIM! LADY WILL NEVER KNOW!

MEOWRR! SSSST!

UH-OH! I FORGOT ABOUT THAT TOUGH CAT THAT HANGS OUT AROUND HERE!

MRRRROW!

OKAY! OKAY! YOU DON'T HAVE TO GET MEAN ABOUT IT! BESIDES...

GRRR! BARK! GRROWFF!

POP! BOY, AM I GLAD TO SEE YOU!

BETTER NOT PLAN ANY MORE MIDNIGHT RAIDS UNTIL YOU'RE A LITTLE BIGGER, SON! THOSE CATS LIKE TO PROWL AT NIGHT!

ALL RIGHT! BUT WE'VE GOT OUR BONES, AND MOM'LL NEVER FIND OUT!

NEITHER OF YOU HAS TOUCHED YOUR BREAKFAST! TRAMP, DON'T TELL ME YOU AND SCAMP RAIDED THE TRASH AT THE MARKET LAST NIGHT!

OOOPS!

POP, HOW COME I HAVE TO STAY IN THE DOGHOUSE ALL DAY, AND YOU DON'T?

I'M ALREADY **IN** THE DOGHOUSE—AND THE NEXT TIME I TRY TO FOOL YOUR MOTHER, REMIND ME OF IT, WILL YOU?

The End

Walt Disney's DONALD DUCK & MICKEY MOUSE in NEW YEAR'S NIGHTMARE

CHAPTER TWO

PART 8 OF THE ORB SAGA

NEW YEAR'S EVE HAS COME AND GONE IN DUCKBURG! DONALD, MICKEY AND THE REST OF THE GANG FOILED MERINGUE THE MALEVOLENT IN HIS ATTEMPT TO MELD HIS MYSTERIOUS ORBS INTO AN INVINCIBLE SCEPTER OF POWER AT THE TURN OF THE NEW YEAR! BUT, UNEXPECTEDLY, MERINGUE MAGICALLY TRANSPORTED HIMSELF TO THE LAST PLACE ON EARTH TO SEE THE STROKE OF MIDNIGHT SO HE CAN TRY AGAIN! OUR HEROES ARE BACK AT SQUARE ONE!

THIS WORLD ATLAS SHOULD CLUE US IN ON *WHERE* THAT SLIMY SORCERER WENT!

WE'RE LOOKING FOR THE CHUNK OF REAL ESTATE CLOSEST TO THE INTERNATIONAL DATE LINE! AND HERE IT IS!

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2

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THE ISLAND NATION OF *WESTERN SAMOA!*

THAT'S THE SPOT, ALL RIGHT! MIDNIGHT WILL HIT THERE LAST!

GREAT! NOW WE KNOW WHERE MERINGUE IS GOING TO MELD HIS ORBS TOGETHER!

YEAH, BUT... HOW ARE WE GOING TO *STOP* HIM?

⇒SIGH!⇐ THE WIZARD IS ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WORLD, AND WE HAVE ONLY HOURS TO GET THERE! IT'S HOPELESS!

I'VE GOT IT! WE'LL TAKE THE *VERTEX!*

THE *WHAT?!*

HOW ABOUT IT, UNCLE SCROOGE? THE VERTEX COULD LAND US IN SAMOA WITH TIME TO SPARE!

WHAT TH' HECK IS THE *VERTEX?!*

MY NEW SUPER-AIRCRAFT WITH VERTICAL TAKE-OFF AND LANDING CAPABILITIES!

GOLLY! SOUNDS LIKE JUST THE TICKET!

SAY! I COULD RIG THE CRAFT WITH A CUSTOMIZED *GIZMO* DESIGNED TO KNOCK MERINGUE FOR A LOOP!

WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR? LET'S JET TO SAMOA!

SORRY! THE VERTEX JUST HAS ROOM FOR A PILOT AND A PASSENGER! ONLY DONALD AND *I* WILL BE ABLE TO GO!

NO! THOSE ORBS ARE *MEANT* TO BE PROTECTED BY MICKEY AND ME ALONE! *WE'RE* THE ONES WHO SHOULD PUT AN END TO THIS BUSINESS!

OUT OF THE QUESTION! THAT PLANE COST *MILLIONS!* NO ONE FLIES THE VERTEX BUT ME!

BUT MICKEY'S A PILOT WITH *PLENTY* OF EXPERIENCE! RIGHT, MICK?

Uh... YEAH! SURE!

LET THEM TAKE THE VERTEX, UNCLE SCROOGE! THE FATE OF THE *WORLD* DEPENDS ON IT!

PLEASE, MR. McDUCK?

WELL...

MUCH AS I *DESPISE* ENTRUSTING MY PRIZE AIRCRAFT TO ANYONE ELSE, I GUESS I HAVE NO CHOICE!

SHORTLY BEFORE DAWN ATOP SCROOGE'S MONEY BIN!

GOOD GRIEF, GYRO! WHAT HAVE YOU *DONE* TO MY BEAUTIFUL VERTEX?

I'VE MERELY EQUIPPED HER FOR *BATTLE*, MR. McDUCK!

THAT CANNON WILL EXPEL AN ELECTRO-MAGNETIC PULSE AND *HOPEFULLY* PUT MERINGUE DOWN FOR THE COUNT!

C'MON, DONALD! TIME TO LIFT OFF!

YOU TWO *BETTER* BRING THAT PLANE BACK IN ONE PIECE!

WE WILL, UNCLE SCROOGE! WE WILL!

I MEAN IT, DONALD! IF THERE'S SO MUCH AS A *SCRATCH* ON THE VERTEX, I'LL HAVE YOUR *HIDE!*

STRAP ON YOUR SEATBELT, CHUM! HERE WE GO!

VAROOOO

ON A TINY ISLAND IN THE PACIFIC, MERINGUE THE MALEVOLENT PACES IMPATIENTLY!

NOW I ONLY HAVE TO WAIT A FEW MORE HOURS UNTIL *MIDNIGHT!* THE TIME WHEN MYSTIC ELEMENTAL FORCES ARE AT THEIR ZENITH!

THEN MY MAGICAL ORBS WILL *MELD* INTO THE INVINCIBLE SCEPTER OF POWER! WITH IT, *I* WILL RULE THE WORLD!

AHOY THERE!!

YOU LOOK LIKE YOU *STRANDED* ON THIS ATOLL, BROTHER! NEED SOME HELP?

Eh? A MEDDLING *FISHERMAN?*

YOW!!!

ZAAAP!

BEGONE, PEASANT! I WILL TOLERATE NO DISTRACTIONS!

THAT NASTY HAOLE PACKS SOME *MEAN* HUNA! BETTER TRY AN' GET BACK TO PORT 'FORE HE TURNS ME INTO A *SEA-SNAIL!*

THAT'S IT! *FLEE,* YOU HUMAN MOLLUSK! NONE SHALL DISTURB MERINGUE ON THIS NIGHT OF NIGHTS!!

MEAN-WHILE!

HERE WE ARE, DONALD! WESTERN SAMOA... IN *LESS* TIME THAN IT TAKES TO DRIVE ACROSS TOWN!

AND THE VERTEX IS GOOD AS NEW! UNCLE SCROOGE CAN REMAIN *CALM!*

THIS PLACE IS BIGGER THAN I THOUGHT! HOW ARE WE GOING TO *FIND* MERINGUE?!

LET'S TALK TO THE LOCALS! MAY-BE SOMEBODY'S SEEN HIM!

BUT ALAS!

SORRY, STRANGERS! NO ONE HERE KNOWS ANYTHING ABOUT THIS FELLOW YOU'RE LOOKING FOR!

DARN!

SAY, WHAT ARE YOU FOLKS UP TO?

Oh, WE'RE GETTING READY FOR OUR NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY!

A BIG BASH, Eh? WHAT'S WITH THE CONCH SHELLS?

OUR TRADITIONAL *NOISE-MAKERS!* WHEN WE BLOW 'EM AT MIDNIGHT, THEY MAKE QUITE A RACKET! LISTEN!

LET 'ER RIP, SATCHMO!

WHOA! TH-THOSE THINGS R-REALLY SEND OUT S-SOME *HEAVY* V-V-VIBRATIONS!

IF I HAD *T-T-TEETH,* THEY'D BE *RATTLING!*

BRAAAOOOOOOO!

WELL, THANKS, FRIEND! WE'VE GOT WORK TO DO AND TIME IS RUNNING OUT! HAVE A *SWELL* NEW YEAR!

BUT AT THE RATE THINGS ARE GOING, DON'T COUNT ON IT!

MUCH LATER!

IT'S NO GOOD, DONALD! THE SUN WENT DOWN HOURS AGO AND WE HAVEN'T TURNED UP A *TRACE* OF...

IT WAS *MAGIC*, I TELL YOU! THAT DUDE FRIED MY BOAT!

WHO? WHERE? TELL US WHAT HAPPENED!

THIS BIG LONG-HAIRED *HAOLE* LET ME *HAVE* IT WITH A BOLT OF... *MAGIC!*

MERINGUE!

THIS IS IMPORTANT! WHERE IS HE?

ON HOWZIT ATOLL! THAT LITTLE ISLAND IS TH' *LAST* PLACE IN THE WORLD TO SEE THE SUN EVERY DAY!

BUT THAT ORNERY FELLA'S GONNA GET HIS, ALL RIGHT! A BIG *STORM'S* BLOWIN' IN FROM THAT WAY!

BA-BOOM!

⇒UH-OH!⇐

THAT "ORNERY FELLA" IS *MAKING* THE STORM! LET'S GO, DONALD!

HUH?

AND SO...

THE CHART SHOWS THERE IS LAND FURTHER WEST, MICKEY! HOWZIT ATOLL IS RIGHT ON THE INTERNATIONAL DATE LINE!

RIGHT!

VROOM!

MIDNIGHT IS COMING FAST! I HOPE WE'RE NOT TOO LATE!

THERE'S HOWZIT ATOLL, MICKEY!

OMIGOSH! MERINGUE'S ABOUT TO PUT HIS AWFUL PLAN INTO *OPERATION!* WE'VE GOTTA ACT *FAST!*

RIGHT ON! LET'S SEE HOW THE CREEP LIKES A TASTE OF GYRO'S ELECTRO-MAGNETIC PULSE CANNON!

SSHHHZZT!

WAAWNNG!

YOU *FRAGMENTS* CANNOT STOP ME NOW! MY ORBS *WILL* MELD INTO THE SCEPTER OF POWER! IT IS *MEANT* TO BE!

WAK! HE BATTED THE ELECTRO-PULSE RIGHT *BACK* AT US!

ZZSHHHTTT!

HOLY CANNOLI! WE'RE HIT! THE VERTEX IS GOING DOWN!

FIZT!

POP!

JUST *GREAT!* IF WE LIVE *THROUGH* THIS, UNCLE SCROOGE WILL *KILL* ME!

HOLD ON, DONALD!

SPLOOORSH!

SHAKE A LEG, CHUM! WE'VE GOT TO GET AWAY FROM THIS WRECKAGE BEFORE IT SINKS!

SINKS?

SWIM! OUR ONLY HOPE IS TO MAKE IT TO SHORE!

BUT THAT'S WHERE *MERINGUE* IS!

⇒SNORT!⇐ WHENEVER WE'RE TOGETHER, SOMETHING LIKE THIS ALWAYS HAPPENS! YOU'RE NOTHING BUT *TROUBLE*, MOUSE!

THANKS FOR THE COMPLIMENT, DUCK!

⇒GASP!⇐ SOLID LAND AT LAST!

BEAUTIFUL TERRA FIRMA! I COULD *KISS* YOU!

LOOK! SOMETHING'S *HAPPENING* WITH THE ORBS! IT MUST BE MIDNIGHT! MERINGUE'S GOING TO SUCCEED!

⇒GROAN!⇐ WE BLEW IT, MICKEY!

AT LAST! NOW MY THREE-HUNDRED-YEAR-OLD SPELL WILL *FINALLY* BE COMPLETED!

MELD! *MELD*, MY PRECIOUS ORBS! FULFILL YOUR FATE! BECOME WHAT YOU WERE *DESTINED* TO BE...

THE *INVINCIBLE* SCEPTER OF POWER!

NO!

YES! IT'S DONE! ULTIMATE POWER IS MINE! I WILL RULE THE WORLD!

YOU'RE NUTTIER THAN A FRUITCAKE, MERINGUE!

AM I? MY FIRST ACT WILL BE TO SUMMON A MONSTROUS TIDAL WAVE THAT WILL REMOVE *YOU* GNATS FROM THE UNIVERSE *ONCE* AND FOR *ALL!*

CRIPES, MICKEY! WHY'D YOU HAVE TO MAKE THAT CRACK ABOUT THE FRUITCAKE?

I'D LIKE TO SAY IT'S BEEN *SWELL* KNOWING YOU, BUT...

HOLD THE PHONE, DONALD! I'VE GOT AN *IDEA!*

GRAB ONE OF THESE! *HURRY!*

WHY? IT'S A LITTLE LATE TO START A *SHELL* COLLECTION!

REMEMBER HOW GYRO USED A TUNING FORK ON THE ORBS? SONIC VIBRATIONS WERE THE *ONLY* THING THAT HAD ANY EFFECT ON THEM!

MAYBE BY BLOWING INTO THESE CONCH SHELLS, WE CAN PRODUCE A SIMILAR VIBRATION!

HEY! I GET YOUR DRIFT, PAL!

BRAAAOOOO!

GIVE *ME* ONE OF THOSE SHELLS! BODYSURFING IN JANUARY *DOESN'T* APPEAL TO ME!

Eh? WHAT *IS* THAT ANNOYING DIN?

BRAAAOOOOOOOO!

W-W-WHAT'S HAPPENING? MY SCEPTER IS STARTING TO *SHAKE!*

BINGO! WE'RE IN LUCK! BLOW, DONALD! *BLOW!*

¡OOOAAAB!

SCEPTER! STOP! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

NO! ALL MY GLORIOUS WORK! UNRAVEL-ING BEFORE MY EYES!

BRAAAOOOOOO!

WE *DID* IT! THE SPELL IS BROKEN! THE TIDAL WAVE IS DISSIPATING!

TAKE A GANDER AT MERINGUE!

AIEEE!

HOLY COW! THE ORBS ARE CREATING SOME KIND OF MYSTICAL *VORTEX!* HE'S GETTING *SUCKED* RIGHT IN!

PHWOOOOOM!

GEE! DO YOU THINK THAT'S THE *END* OF HIM?

WHO *KNOWS?* DO WE *EVER* SEE THE END OF THE BAD GUYS?

Huh! WILL YOU LOOK AT THAT!

WELL, I'LL BE!

PLOP!

PLOP!

SUPPOSE IT'S *SAFE* TO TOUCH THEM?

WHY NOT? PICK 'EM UP!

ME? WHY SHOULD *I* PICK THEM UP? *YOU* PICK THEM UP!

C'MON, DON! YOU'RE NOT *CHICKEN* OVER A COUPLE OF *HARMLESS* ORBS!

CHICKEN? WHO ARE YOU CALLING *CHICKEN?* I DON'T HAVE A YELLOW BONE IN MY BODY!

THEN PICK 'EM UP!

TRYING TO GET *ME* TO DO THE DIRTY WORK, Eh?

Oh, FOR GOSH SAKES, DONALD!

AND SO... A BELATED NEW YEAR'S PARTY IS BETTER THAN NONE AT ALL!

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2007

WELCOME HOME, SWEETIE! YOU'RE A *HERO!* WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WITH THE ORBS?

LOCK 'EM UP GOOD AND TIGHT! AND I'M WRITING OUR ADVENTURE DOWN, SO MY DESCENDANT WILL BE *READY* IF MERINGUE SHOWS UP AGAIN!

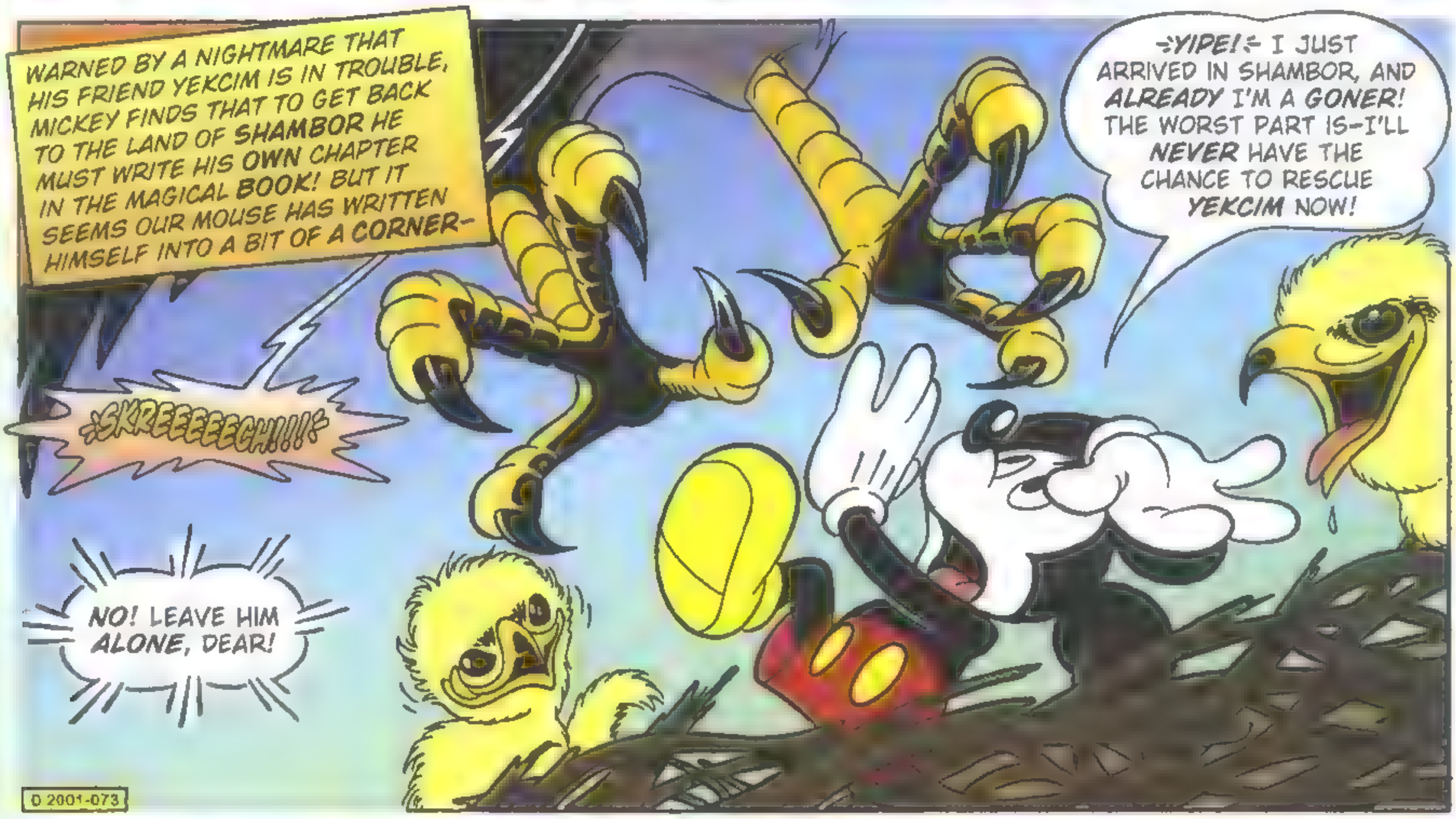
GOOD THING! →SNORT!← MY PLANE-WRECKING NEPHEW MIGHT NOT *LIVE* LONG ENOUGH TO *HAVE* DESCENDANTS!

THE END!

Walt Disney's

MICKEY MOUSE

The Protector of Shambor Part 2


WARNED BY A NIGHTMARE THAT HIS FRIEND YEKCIM IS IN TROUBLE, MICKEY FINDS THAT TO GET BACK TO THE LAND OF SHAMBOR HE MUST WRITE HIS OWN CHAPTER IN THE MAGICAL BOOK! BUT IT SEEMS OUR MOUSE HAS WRITTEN HIMSELF INTO A BIT OF A CORNER-
=YIPE!= I JUST ARRIVED IN SHAMBOR, AND ALREADY I'M A GONER! THE WORST PART IS-I'LL NEVER HAVE THE CHANCE TO RESCUE YEKCIM NOW!
=SKREEEEECH!!!=
NO! LEAVE HIM ALONE, DEAR!
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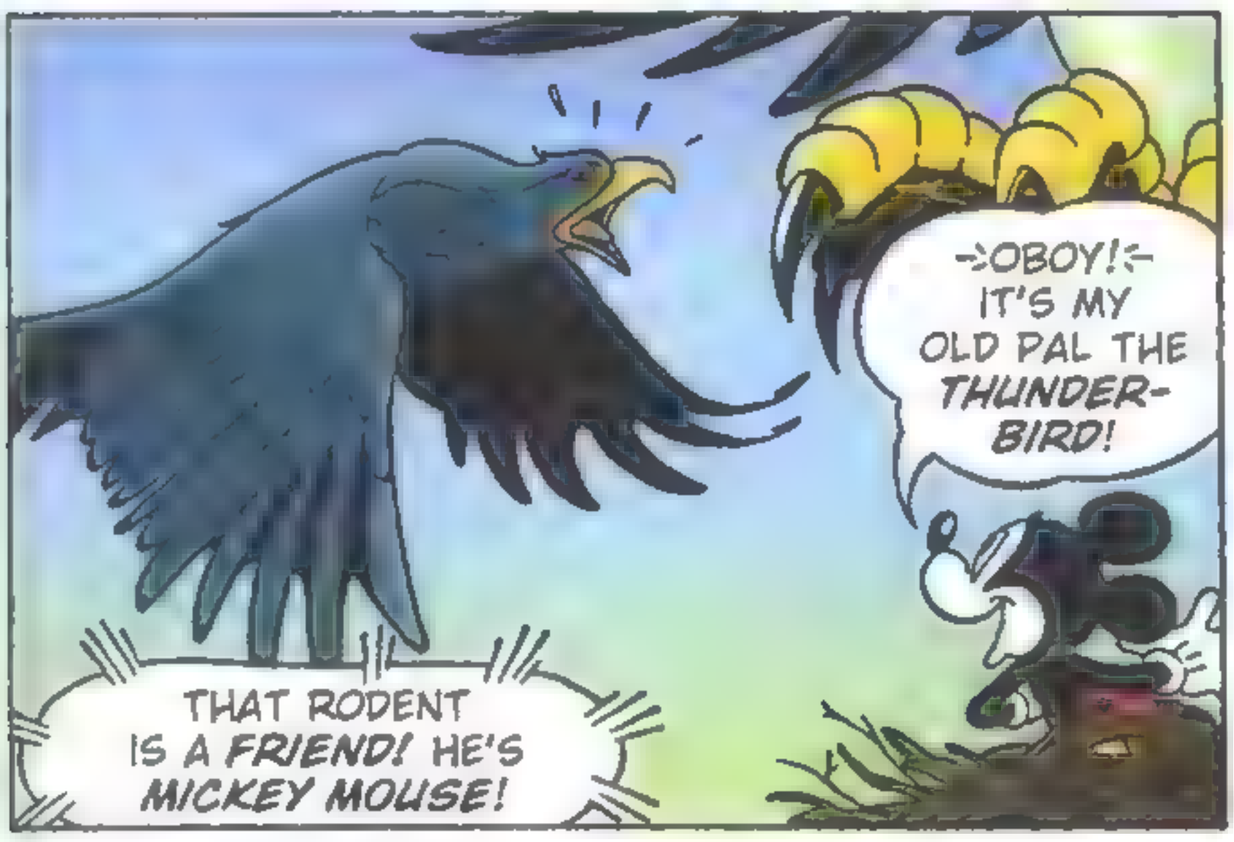
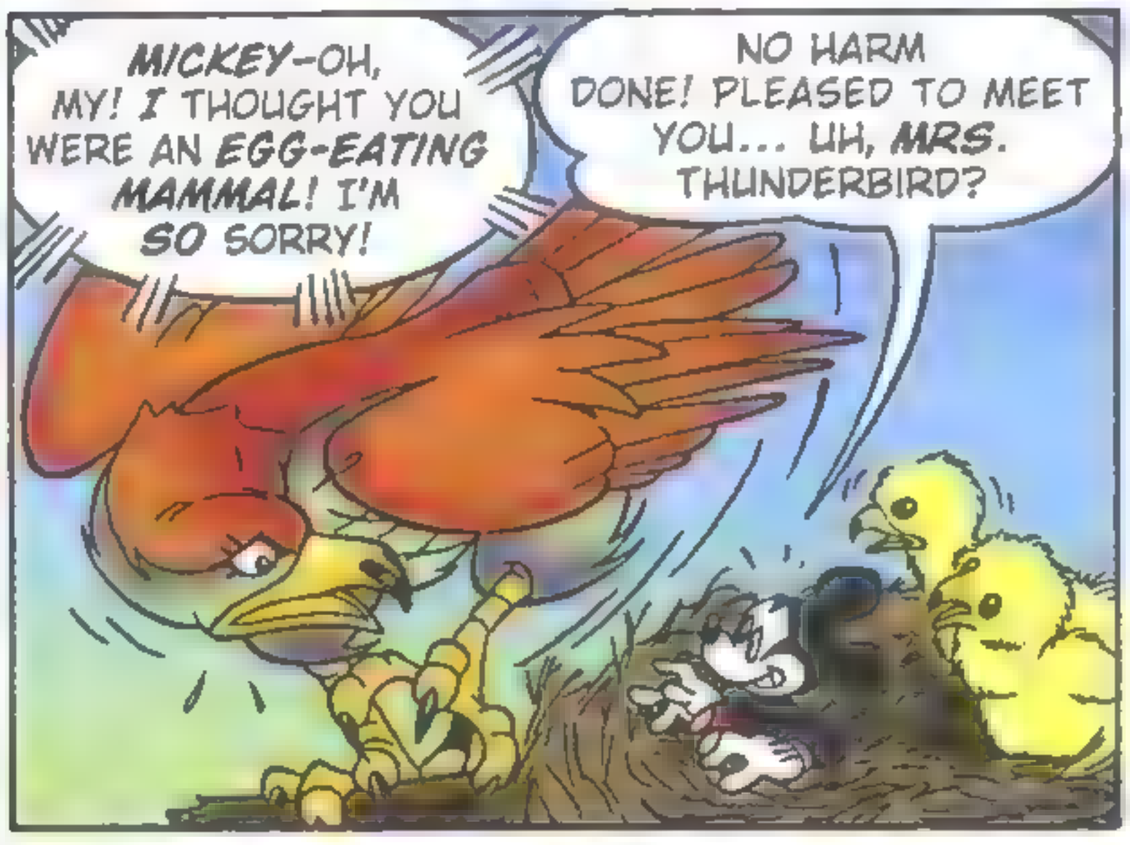
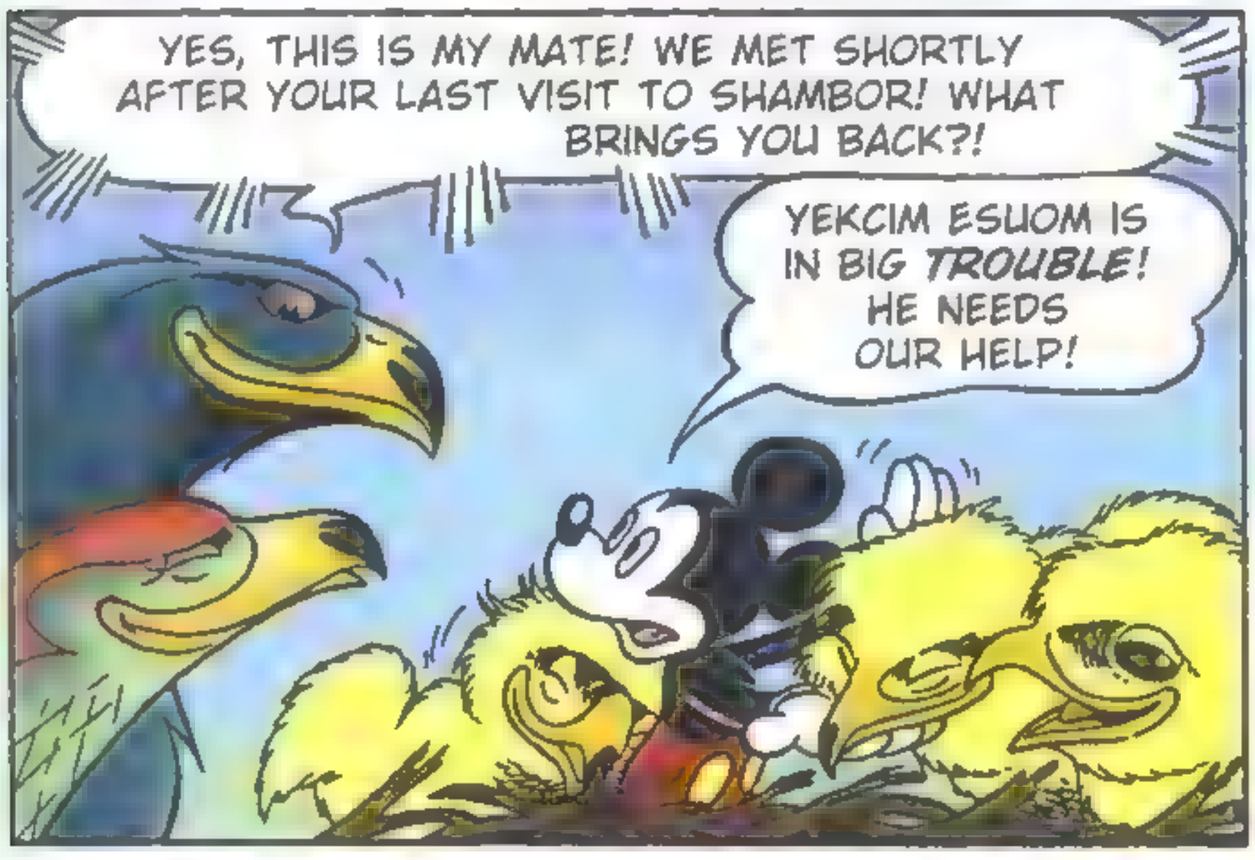
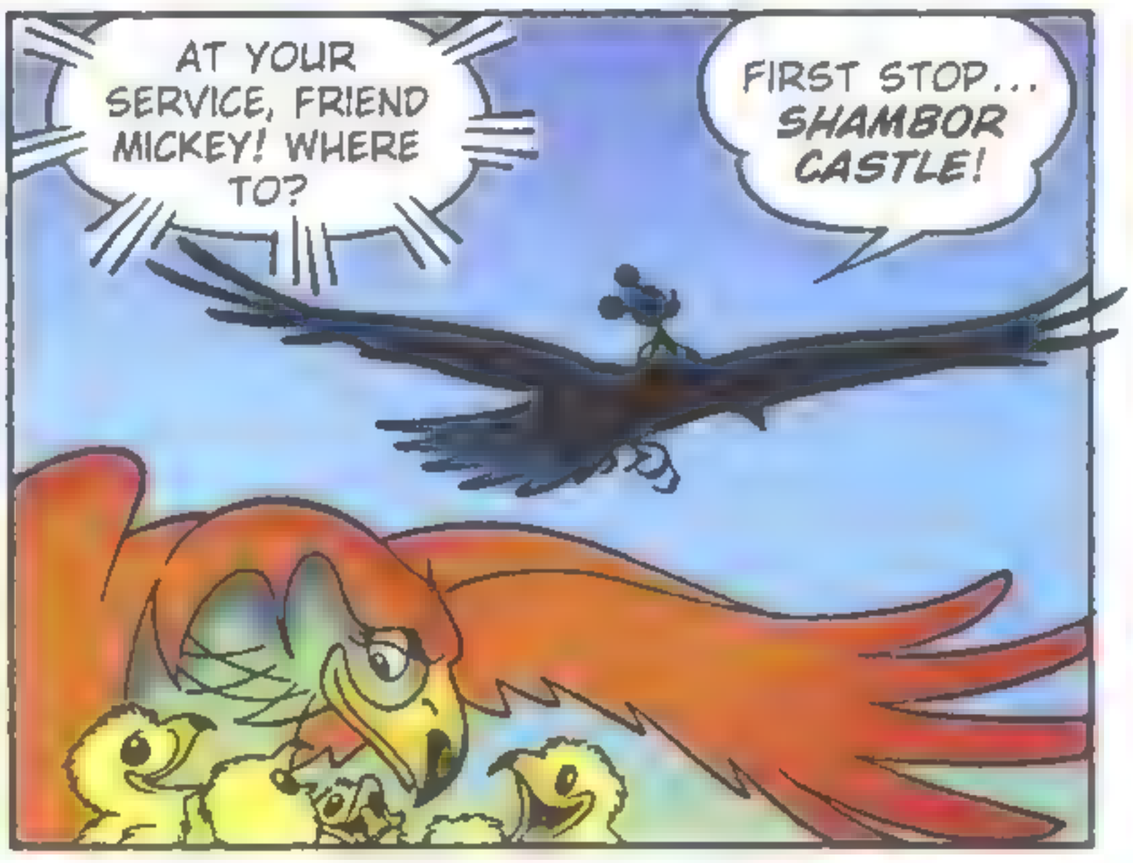





YES, THIS IS MY MATE! WE MET SHORTLY AFTER YOUR LAST VISIT TO SHAMBOR! WHAT BRINGS YOU BACK?!
YEKCIM ESUOM IS IN BIG TROUBLE! HE NEEDS OUR HELP!



THERE IT IS! POOR PRINCESS LORAC! SHE MUST BE ***BESIDE*** HERSELF WITH WORRY ABOUT YEKCIM!

MICKEY! THANK ***GOODNESS*** YOU'VE RETURNED!

YOU ARE A SIGHT FOR SORE EYES, GREAT LIBERATOR!

NOW THAT ***YOU'VE*** JOINED US, I'M ***SURE*** WE'LL BE ABLE TO SAVE MY BELOVED YEKCIM AT LAST!

DON'T PUT TOO MUCH STOCK IN ***ME***, PRINCESS! REMEMBER, HIS ***CAPTORS*** HAVE THE ***SWORD OF SHAMBOR!***

BUT I'LL DO WHAT I ***CAN!*** ANY IDEA WHERE TO START LOOKING?

YES! INTELLIGENCE REPORTS TELL US THAT THE VIZIER AND HIS WIZARD HAVE OCCUPIED THE ***DREAM TEMPLE*** ON THE PLANET'S SURFACE!

THEY'VE TAKEN ***HUBERT***–THE KEEPER OF THE TEMPLE– ***HOSTAGE*** AND ARE HOLDING YEKCIM PRISONER THERE!

THE TEMPLE OF DREAMS, EH? THAT EXPLAINS THOSE NASTY ***NIGHTMARES*** I HAD!

THE VILLAINS PROBABLY DON'T ***REALIZE*** THE TEMPLE'S MYSTICAL ENERGIES SEEPED INTO ***MY*** SLEEPING MIND!

SO WHAT DO WE DO? ***ATTACK*** THE JOINT?

NO! THE VIZIER HAS A SMALL CONTINGENT OF LOYAL ***SOLDIERS*** POSTED THERE!

EVEN THOUGH WE ***COULD*** OVER-WHELM THEM, THEY STILL MIGHT HAVE TIME TO ***FINISH OFF*** YEKCIM!

I SEE! SO WE NEED TO BE ***SNEAKY!*** →HMMM!← I'M GETTING AN ***IDEA...***

LATE THAT NIGHT-

DO YOU *REALLY* THINK THIS WILL WORK, MICKEY?

WHY NOT? YEKCIM AND I *ARE* DEAD-RINGERS! IF I GET THE *DISGUISE* RIGHT, NO ONE'LL BE ABLE TO TELL US APART!

WHILE YOU AND THE *THUNDERBIRD* CREATE A *DIVERSION*, I'LL SNEAK PAST THE GUARDS INTO THE DREAM TEMPLE...

...*FIND* YEKCIM AND TAKE HIS *PLACE*! THEN I JUST *CON* THE VIZIER AND WIZARD INTO LETTING ME GET MY *HANDS* ON THE *SWORD*!

AND ONCE I'VE *GOT* MY MITTS ON IT, I'LL GIVE THOSE MUGGS WHAT FOR!

YES... IT *SOUNDS* LIKE A SURE-FIRE PLAN!

ARE YOU *OKAY*, PRINCESS? I'VE GOTTA ADMIT, YOU'RE HANDLING A *BAD* SITUATION REALLY *WELL*!

WHAT *ELSE* CAN I DO? I'VE *GOT* TO BE STRONG! I... I'VE GOT TO-

OH, MICKEY, I'M *SCARED*! IF ANYTHING HAPPENS TO MY BRAVE, *IMPULSIVE* YEKCIM, I DON'T KNOW *WHAT* I'LL DO!

BE STRONG, PRINCESS! I WON'T LET YOU DOWN!

I *KNOW* YOU WON'T! -:SNIFF!:- BY THE WAY, THE PATCH GOES ON THE *OTHER* EYE!

-:HUH?:- OH! THANKS!

AND YEKCIM *DOESN'T* HAVE A *TAIL*! YOU SHOULD TUCK YOURS INTO YOUR *PANTS*!

UM... RIGHT... LET ME... HERE... I'LL DO THAT...

COMES THE DAWN, MICKEY'S PLAN IS PUT INTO OPERATION-

USURPERS OF THE TEMPLE OF DREAMS! WE HAVE ***FOUND*** YOU! YOUR ***DOOM*** IS AT HAND!

GEEZ! IT'S ***PRINCESS LORAC!***

RIDIN' TH' ***THUNDERBIRD!*** I THOUGHT THAT CRITTER WAS A ***MYTH!***

WHADDA WE DO?! ***RUN?*** I THINK WE SHOULD ***RUN!***

FOOL! THE WRATH OF THE VIZIER WILL BE FAR ***WORSE*** THAN THAT GIRL'S! ***DRIVE HER OFF!***

G'WAN! GET OUTTA HERE! WE GOT ***SPEARS*** AN' WE KNOW HOW TA ***USE*** 'EM!

IT'S WORKING! THEY'RE TURNING BACK!

THAT'S RIGHT, PALOOKAS! TAKE THE ***BAIT***, JUST LIKE I ***HOPED*** YOU WOULD!

THEY'VE COMPLETELY ***ABANDONED*** THEIR ***POST!*** →HAH!← NOW GETTING INTO THE TEMPLE IS A ***CINCH!***

→SHEESH!← THIS PLACE IS *CONFUSING!* LUCKILY, I'VE BEEN HERE BEFORE... IN THE FLESH *AND* IN MY DREAMS!

→AHA!← *HERE* WE ARE!

YEKCIM! IT... IT'S *YOU?*

WRONG, HUBERT! IT'S *ME!* MICKEY MOUSE!

MICKEY, MY BROTHER! BUT WHAT'S WITH THAT RAGBAG *GETUP*?!

UH... I'M DISGUISED AS *YOU?*

→AHEM!← WELL, YOU'VE GOT THE SUPERFICIAL DETAILS RIGHT! BUT THERE'S STILL AN INNER *GLOW* THAT'S MISSING!

HERE'S THE DEAL... *I* TAKE *YOUR* PLACE AND YOU *SKEDADDLE* WHILE THERE'S STILL TIME!

REALLY?

I SAY *THIS* IS THE DEAL—WE *STICK TOGETHER* AND *BATTLE* OUR WAY OUT OF HERE!

NO GO, PAL! *THEY* HAVE THE *SWORD!* REMEMBER?

I'VE GOTTA GET IT BACK... AND *THAT* MEANS CATCHING THOSE *WEASELS* WITH THEIR *PANTS* DOWN!

OKAY! I JUST *HOPE* YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING!

SHORTLY-

GOSH, THESE SHACKLES *HURT*! HOW DID *YEKCIM* STAND IT ALL THIS TIME?!

HOPE I'M ABLE TO PULL THIS O-

WHAT'S *THAT*?! *FOOT-STEPS* ALONG THE CORRIDOR? HERE THEY COME!

THAT MEANS WE CAN'T AFFORD TO KEEP THIS PESKY *MOUSE* AROUND ANY LONGER!

=*BAH!*= THE *REBELS* HAVE STUMBLED ONTO OUR HIDEOUT! WE MUST *FLEE* POSTHASTE!

WHAT A *PITY*, VERMIN! WE MUST *CEASE TOYING* WITH YOU!

PLEASE! LET ME AT LEAST *HOLD* THE REVERED *SWORD OF SHAMBOR* ONCE MORE BEFORE I BREATHE MY LAST!

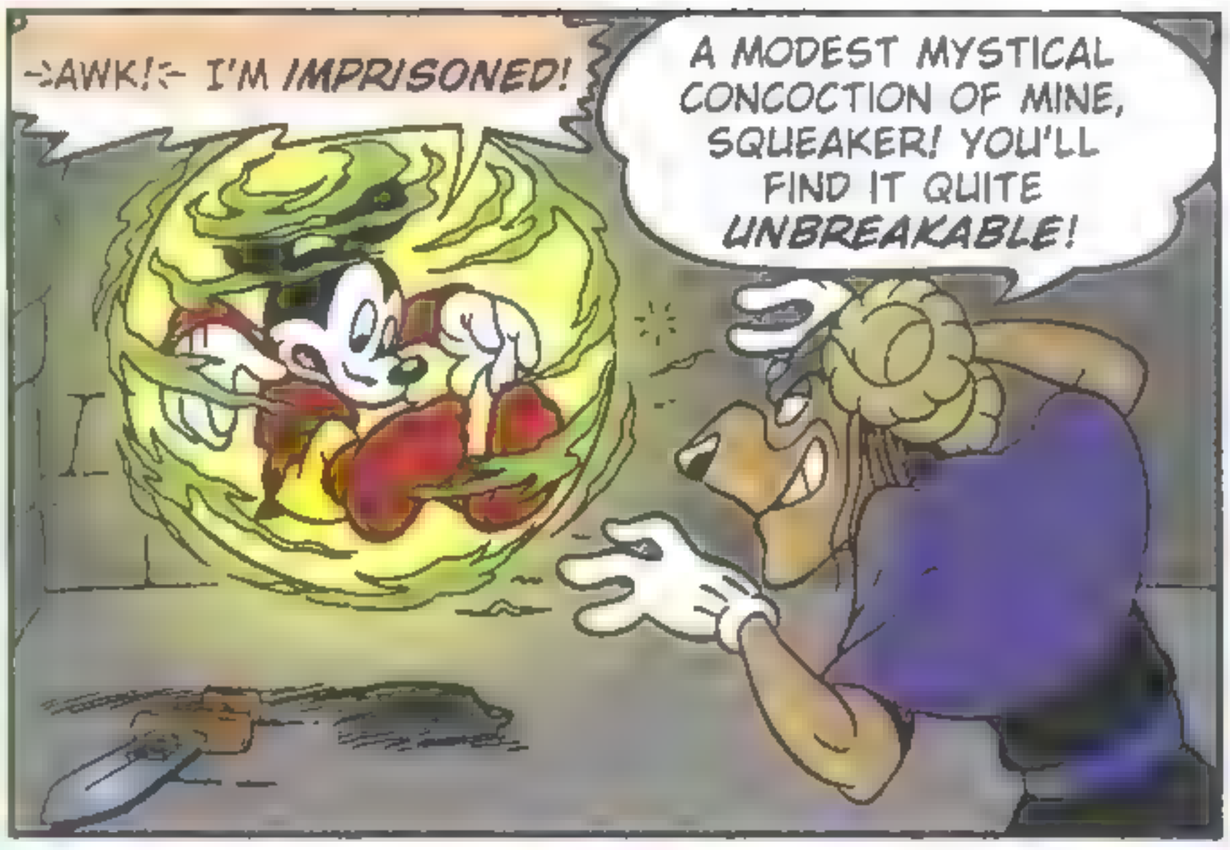
OH, WELL! WHY *NOT*?

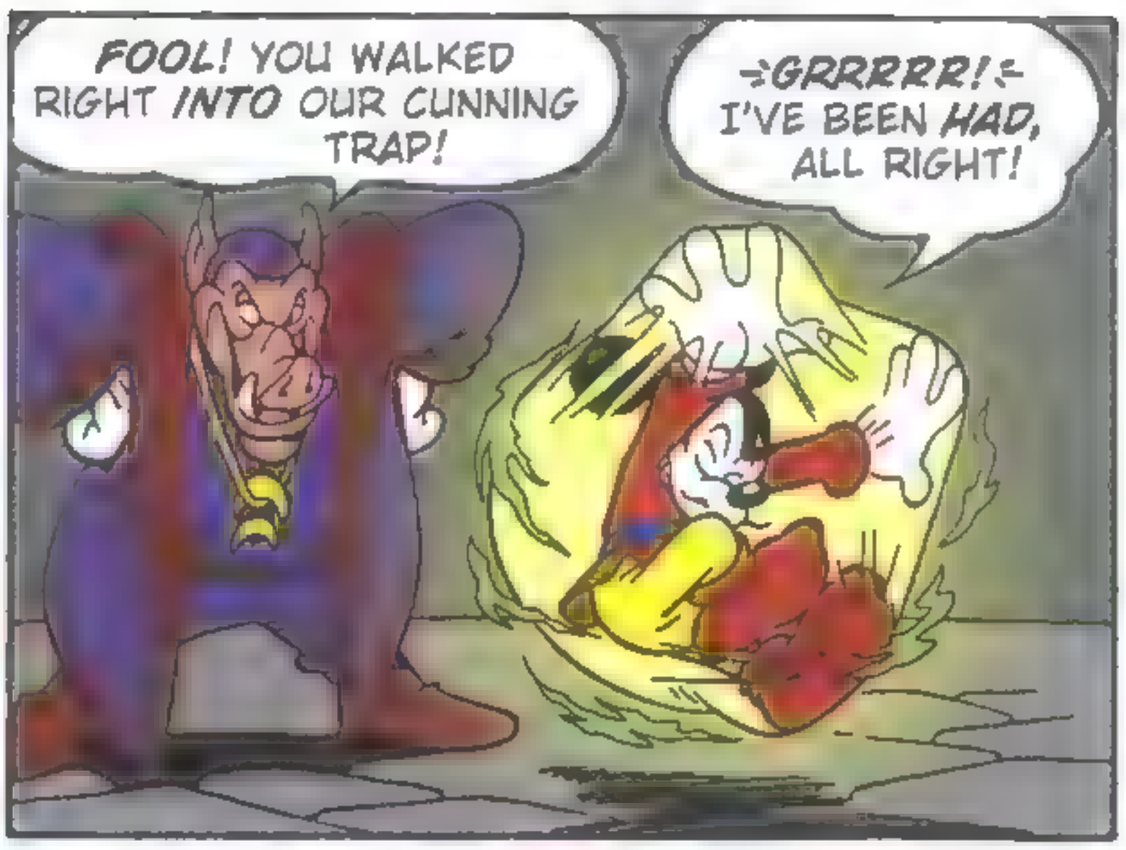
SURE! *GIVE* IT TO HIM! IT'S NOT LIKE IT'S GOING TO DO HIM ANY *GOOD*-

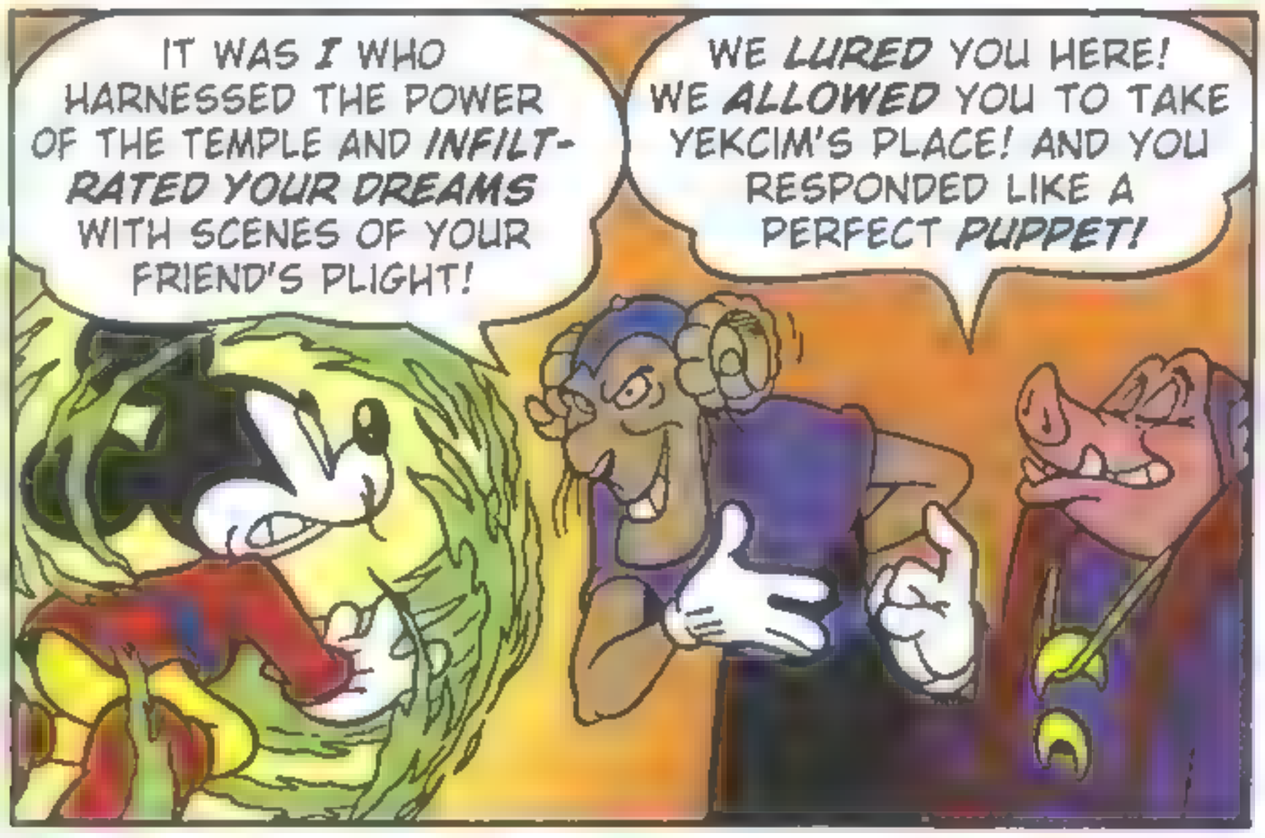
GOTCHA, CHUMPS! I'M *MICKEY MOUSE*... THE *LIBERATOR*! BEHOLD THE *FIGHTING SWORD OF SHAMBOR*!

HEY! WHAT'S *UP*?! THE SWORD'S NOT *RESPONDING*!

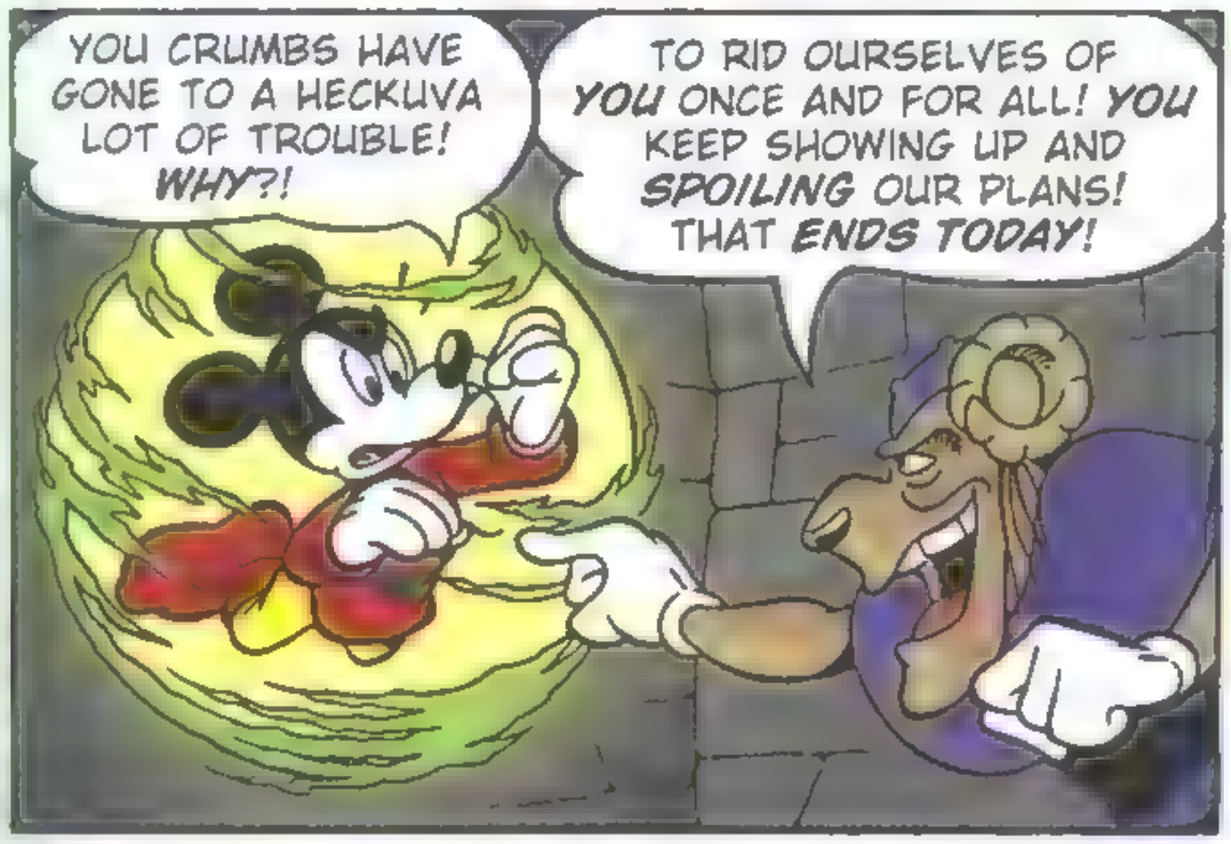
=*HEH!*= *NOW* WHO'S THE CHUMP, *CHUMP*?!


-AWK!- I'M IMPRISONED!
A MODEST MYSTICAL CONCOCTION OF MINE, SQUEAKER! YOU'LL FIND IT QUITE UNBREAKABLE!


FOOL! YOU WALKED RIGHT INTO OUR CUNNING TRAP!
-GRRRRR!- I'VE BEEN HAD, ALL RIGHT!


IT WAS I WHO HARNESSED THE POWER OF THE TEMPLE AND INFILTRATED YOUR DREAMS WITH SCENES OF YOUR FRIEND'S PLIGHT!
WE LURED YOU HERE! WE ALLOWED YOU TO TAKE YEKCIM'S PLACE! AND YOU RESPONDED LIKE A PERFECT PUPPET!

BUT... BUT THE SWORD! WHY DIDN'T IT...
A FAKE, NATURALLY! THE REAL SWORD OF SHAMBOR IS HIDDEN DEEP WITHIN THE TEMPLE FOR SAFEKEEPING!


YOU CRUMBS HAVE GONE TO A HECKUVA LOT OF TROUBLE! WHY?!
TO RID OURSELVES OF YOU ONCE AND FOR ALL! YOU KEEP SHOWING UP AND SPOILING OUR PLANS! THAT ENDS TODAY!

MY COLLEAGUE IS USING HIS MAGIC TO OPEN A PORTAL FROM SHAMBOR INTO YOUR WORLD!
WE'LL SIMPLY FOLLOW THE ASTRAL TRAIL YOU'VE LEFT BEHIND ON YOUR TRAVELS!

THE TRAIL WILL LEAD US RIGHT TO THE VERY SPOT IN YOUR OWN DIMENSION WHERE YOUR CORPOREAL BODY LIES SLUMBERING!
IT IS INCREDIBLY VULNERABLE! AND WHEN IT IS DISPOSED OF...
SNAP!

...YOU WILL VANISH FOREVER!! -HAHAHHAHAHAH!-
-GULP!- I WALKED RIGHT INTO THIS ONE!

I WAS A *FOOL!* A DOGGONE OVERCONFIDENT FOOL!

DON'T WORRY, MICKEY! I CAN HELP!

YOU *CAN*?!

YES! I CAN'T FREE US FROM *EARTHLY* SHACKLES AND LOCKS, BUT A *MAGIC* ENERGY BALL'S A PIECE OF CAKE!

I'M *FREE!* NOW LET ME FREE *YOU*, AND WE'LL HUNT UP THE *SWORD OF SHAMBOR!*

THERE'S NO *TIME!*

APPRECIATE THE *DANGER* YOU'RE IN! YOU MUST GO THROUGH THE PORTAL *NOW* TO *STOP* THE VILLAINS– IN *YOUR* WORLD!

IN THE MEANTIME, *I'LL* FIND THE SWORD... AND *GET* IT TO YOU SOMEHOW!

TALK ABOUT A *CRAZY* ADVENTURE! IMAGINE, ME *SAVING* MYSELF AND *NAPPING* AT THE *SAME* TIME!

OH, WELL! HERE GOES NOTHING...

To Be Continued...

Walt Disney's DONALD DUCK IN LUCKY NEW YEAR!

ONE CHILL DECEMBER DAY AT DAISY'S DOMICILE...

"DEAR S.L.U.G.S. CLUB MEMBER! YOU ARE HEREBY CORDIALLY INVITED TO OUR *NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY!* THIS TICKET ENTITLES YOU AND YOUR GUEST TO JOIN US AT THE HOPE HOTEL IN LUCKY VALLEY TO CELEBRATE SURVIVING ANOTHER YEAR OF THE 'SLINGS AND ARROWS OF OUTRAGEOUS MISFORTUNE' AND BLAH, BLAH, BLAH..."

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WHAT BETTER SPOT FOR US TO CELEBRATE NEW YEAR'S EVE— WITHOUT WORRYING ABOUT A *DISCO BALL* FALLING ON MY HEAD!

YES, BUT... *"SLINGS AND ARROWS OF OUTRAGEOUS FORTUNE"* SOUNDS *OMINOUS.* WHAT'S THIS CLUB ABOUT...?

WHAT DOES IT MATTER? IT'S THE *ONLY CLUB* THAT'LL HAVE *ME* AS A *MEMBER!* WHICH IS WHY I ALMOST DIDN'T JOIN... BUT I'D BE *HONORED* TO HAVE YOU AS MY *DATE!*

I'M FLATTERED, DONALD! BUT... THIS PARTY SOUNDS LIKE IT'S FOR... Uh... *LOSERS!*

IT'S FOR *WINNERS,* TOOTS! THERE'S A *RAFFLE!* AND *YOU* CAN BE MY *LADY LUCK!*

HOW SWEET!

THE *PRIZES* WE WIN WILL BE *SWEET,* ALL RIGHT! WITH YOU AS MY *LUCKY CHARM,* HOW CAN I LOSE?

Oh, DONALD! YOU'RE SUCH A *CHARMER,* HOW COULD I PASS UP THE CHANCE?

SMACK!

DECEMBER 31ST DAWNS AUSPICIOUS-LY!

WE BETTER GET AN EARLY START TO MAKE IT TO THE PARTY ON TIME WITHOUT ANY *SLIP-UPS!*

WAK!

SHLIP!

!?

THUMP!

BONK!

THUD!

WHY DID YOU KNOCK SO LOUD, DONALD?

JUST SOME *BEGINNER'S BAD LUCK* TO *BEGIN* THE DAY... Heh...

LET'S GET A MOVE-ON! THERE'S A *PRIZE* WITH *MY NAME* ON IT!

YIKES!!

NO NEED TO KNOCK *NOW,* SILLY! I'VE ALREADY LEFT THE HOUSE!

SHLLIP!

THUMP!

BONK!

EN ROUTE...

WE'LL BE THERE IN A JIFFY! I CAN'T WAIT TO INTRODUCE YOU TO MY *FELLOW S.L.U.G.S.!*

WHAT *DOES* S.L.U.G.S. STAND FOR?

ROAR!

456

VROOM! VROOM!

Uh... WHAT'S THAT, DAISY? I CAN'T HEAR YOU OVER MY *ENGINE!*

ROAR!

LISTEN TO THE POWER OF THIS *LUXURY RENTAL!* SHE PURRS LIKE A *KITTEN!*

I DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT CARS, DONALD, BUT...

...DOES THIS "*KITTEN*" HAVE A *HAIRBALL?*

KLANG! KRUNCH! BONG!

456

Oh, NO! I THINK SHE BLEW A GASKET!

IS THAT IMPOR-TANT?

456

ONLY IF YOU WANT THE CAR TO *RUN!* PHOOEY! MAYBE I SHOULDN'T HAVE RENTED FROM "*LEASE A LEMON*"...

HOW'LL WE GET TO THE PARTY NOW?!

WHAT *LUCK!* HERE COMES SOMEONE!

"LUCK"? ER... I SUPPOSE YOU COULD SEE IT THAT WAY...

SOON...

THANKS FOR THE RIDE, MISTER. SORRY TO TROUBLE YOU.

ALWAYS GLAD TO HELP THE *LESS FORTUNATE!* I *AM* A *S.M.U.G.S. CLUB* MEMBER AFTER ALL. THAT'S "*SPLENDID MILLIONAIRE UNPARALLELEDLY GIFTED SWELLS!*"

WE CELEBRATE A *YEAR OF GOOD FORTUNE* AT *OUR* NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY! IT'S IN A HOTEL NEAR *YOUR* PARTY!

I GUESS YOUR *GOOD LUCK* IS *RUBBING OFF* ON US! Heh, Heh...

SO WHAT DOES *YOUR* CLUB'S ACRONYM, S.L.U.G.S., STAND FOR?

ER— SOMETHING A LITTLE *DIFFERENT* FROM YOURS!

⇒*UH-OH!*⇐ THE ROAD'S COVERED WITH *ICE*— MY CAR'S *SKIDDING!*

YEOW!

CRASH!

ULP! WHAT A *BAD SPIN* ON THE *WHEEL OF FORTUNE!* I HOPE THE S.M.U.G.S. CLUB DOESN'T *KICK ME OUT!*

MAYBE THOSE DUCKS' BAD LUCK *RUBBED OFF* ON *ME.* WHAT HAPPENED TO THEM, ANYWAY...?

⇒*GASP!*⇐ WHAT'S THAT HORRID SMELL?

WE LANDED ON A— ER— *NICE, SOFT* GARBAGE TRUCK!

IT'S HEADED THE *RIGHT WAY,* TOO! THAT GUY'S *GOOD LUCK* RUBBED OFF ON US!

MIGHT AS WELL GO ALONG FOR THE RIDE! IT'S TOO DANGEROUS TO JUMP OFF, ANYWAY!

MEANWHILE WE CAN *CHILL OUT!* JUST DON'T LET THE *GARBAGE* RUB OFF ON YOU, TOO! HA-HA... →YAWN!←

"*CHILL OUT*" IS RIGHT! IT'S *FREEZING* UP HERE!

GZZZAW! SCHNORR!

LATER!

DONALD! WAKE UP, DONALD!

THE TRUCK HAS STOPPED— BUT *WE'RE* STILL MOVING!

WHA-!?

IT'S *DUMPING* US IN THE *DUMP!*

→GASP!← I *REFUSE* TO BE TREATED LIKE *REFUSE!*

→YUK!← I SMELL LIKE *EAU DE PUTRID SOCKS!* WHY DID I EVEN BOTHER TO PUT ON *DUCKNEL No. 5* TONIGHT!?

LUCKY I DON'T USE *DEODORANT!* Heh...

HALP! HALP!

MAYBE I WASN'T SWEET-TALKING YOU, DAISY! MAYBE YOU *ARE* MY LUCKY CHARM!

ROAR! VROOOMM!

WITH THIS *STREAK OF GOOD LUCK* YOU'VE BROUGHT ME, WE'LL GET THERE IF I HAVE TO *DRAG YOU BY YOUR BOW!*

THIS PATH LEADS DOWN TO THE RIVER! LET'S TRY TO REACH IT!

⇒*PANT!*⇐ WHAT WAS THAT ABOUT SWEET-TALKING...

WAK! YOUR WEIGHT TRIGGERED AN *AVALANCHE!*

YEOOWW!

LUCKY US AGAIN! WE LANDED ON A BOAT TIED UP AT THE PIER!

⇒GROAN!⇐ Oh, WE SURE ARE *LUCKY,* ALL RIGHT!

WE'LL SAIL IT TO THE PARTY! IF OUR LUCK *HOLDS,* IT'LL DRIFT BACK HERE AFTERWARDS!

⇒SIGH!⇐

AND SO...

AREN'T WE *LUCKY* TO STUMBLE INTO THIS *SURPRISE CRUISE*, DAISY?

HARD TO BELIEVE I'M A *S.L.U.G.S. MEMBER* NOW, Huh?

I DON'T THINK I *WANT* TO KNOW WHAT THAT STANDS FOR ANYMORE...

IT SHOULD BE *SMOOTH SAILING* FROM HERE ON! JUST LISTEN TO THAT MOTOR *SING!*

SKRONG! SPROING! GRUNK!

ISN'T IT SINGING A LITTLE *OFF-KEY?*

MY NEW *GOOD LUCK* MUST NOT COVER *MOTORS*... THIS ONE'S A TAD *BROKEN*...

SGRUURK! SGREECK!

WE'VE RUN *AGROUND!* ONCE A S.L.U.G.S., ALWAYS A S.L.U.G.S, I GUESS!

ALL RIGHT, *ALL RIGHT!* TELL ME— *WHAT DOES S.L.U.G.S. STAND FOR?!*

KA-BONK!

A RUBBER LIFE-BOAT? WITH *MY* LUCK TONIGHT, IT'LL *SPRING A LEAK!*

YOUR LUCK'S NOT TO BLAME, DAISY! THE TRUTH IS, S.L.U.G.S. STANDS FOR... "*SORRY LUCKLESS UNFORTUNATE GORMLESS SAPS!*"

SOON!

ROOOAR!

BUT *MY LUCK* HAS *TURNED* AGAIN! THIS BOAT'S LIKE A *ROCKET!*

WHY DO *YOUR* LUCKY STREAKS *RUN OUT TOO SOON*, DONALD?

ROOOAAR!

THERE IT GOES! *YEOW!!*

URK!

THUNK!

WHERE DID *FATE* LAND US *THIS* TIME?

POSTAL SERVICE

ON TOP OF A BUNCH OF MAIL! AT LEAST IT DOESN'T *STINK*...

ATTAGIRL! WE S.L.U.G.S. LOOK AT THE *BRIGHT* SIDE!

WHUP! WHUP! WHUP!

NOW WHAT? IS OUR LUCK GOING *UP?*

BUT *I'M* NOT A *S.L.U.G.S.*, DONALD!

POSTAL SERVICE

WE'RE BEING AIR-LIFTED TO SAFETY!

SAFETY?! WE COULD END UP SOMEPLACE *WORSE!*

POSTAL SERVICE

YOU GOTTA *THINK POSITIVE*, DAISY! IT'S THE S.L.U.G.S. *MOTTO!*

BUT I'M *NOT* A S.L.U.G.S., DONALD!

SEE!? THERE'S THE HOPE HOTEL! WE'LL PASS IT IN A MINUTE OR TWO! GET READY!

POSTAL SERVIC

READY FOR WHAT— *DISASTER?*

TO JUMP, SILLY!

IN THESE HEELS?!

DON'T WORRY, DAISY! THE SNOW-DRIFTS WILL CUSHION OUR FALL!

POSTAL SERVICE

S.L.U.G.S. AWAY!

BUT I'M NOT A S.L.U.-U.-U.-U.G.S.!

POSTAL SERVICE

OW!

YEEK!

FLOOMPH!!

FLOOMPH!

GOTTA GET THERE BY MIDNIGHT TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE RAFFLE!

⇒PUFF! PUFF!⇐ WE CAN DO IT! *⇒PANT!⇐* WE'VE GOT TEN MINUTES TO SPARE!

HALL B

AND NOW, LADIES AND GENTLE-MEN, AS CLUB PRESIDENT, I SHALL DRAW THE WINNING NUMBER...

THE PRIZE IS A *GLORIOUS TWO-WEEK VACATION* FOR *TWO* ON A *TROPICAL ISLAND!*

AND THE WINNING NUMBER IS... *41!*

YIPPEE! THAT'S THE NUMBER ON *MY* TICKET!

COME ON UP, MR.— ERR...

TODAY IS DEFINITELY *MY LUCKY DAY!*

LET'S GIVE THE WINNER A HAND!

THANK YOU! EVEN THOUGH I WAS THE LAST TO ARRIVE, I—

CLAP! CLAP!

THREE CHEERS FOR THE WINNER!

CLAP! CLAP!

HOLD ON A MINUTE! THIS TICKET *ISN'T VALID!* IT'S FOR THE PARTY IN HALL *A!*

!?

THIS IS THE *B.U.G.S.* CLUB PARTY! THAT STANDS FOR "BETTER THAN THE UNLUCKY GORMLESS SAPS"...

THIS CLUB IS FOR PEOPLE WHO AREN'T QUITE UNLUCKY *ENOUGH* TO QUALIFY FOR THE S.L.U.G.S. THE WAY YOUR LUCK IS RUNNING TONIGHT, YOU AND YOUR DATE *MORE* THAN QUALIFY!

IN OTHER WORDS, YOU'RE AT THE *WRONG PARTY!* GOOD LUCK GETTING TO *HALL A* IN TIME!

ZOOM!

HALL B

HOOF IT, TOOTS! WE'RE IN *MAJOR* TROUBLE!

QUICK, MY GOOD MAN! WHERE'S HALL A?

AT THE END OF THIS HALLWAY— ALL THE WAY ON THE *OTHER SIDE* OF THE HOTEL!

BUT YOU MIGHT AS WELL WAIT WITH ME TILL THE PORKER TWINS LEAVE. THEY'RE BLOCKING THE HALLWAY LIKE A *CLOGGED DRAIN!*

YEEP!

THERE SURE IS A *LOT* OF THEM TO *LOVE!*

I'VE GOT A GIRLFRIEND! GIMME THAT...

SOMETIMES YOU GOTTA *MAKE YOUR OWN LUCK!* LOOK— A MOUSE!

EEEEK!

EVERY WOMAN FOR HERSELF!

→AIEEE!← THE CLOCK'S STRIKING MIDNIGHT! WE'RE *TOO LATE!*

BONG! BONG! BONG!

I'M SORRY, DAISY! I SO HOPED TO SHARE THE NEW YEAR WITH YOU... AND WIN *FABULOUS PRIZES...*

REMEMBER THE S.L.U.G.S. MOTTO, DONALD— *THINK POSITIVE!*

HALL A

ONWARD AND INWARD!

!?

CLAP! CLAP! CLAP!

DONALD! YOU'RE LATE!

I KNOW. I'M SORRY... WE RAN INTO SOME *BAD LUCK* ON THE WAY...

CLAP! CLAP! CLAP!

WELL! AS S.L.U.G.S. PRESIDENT, LET ME BE THE FIRST TO CONGRATULATE YOU!

M-ME? FOR *WHAT?*

WHY, YOU'VE JUST WON A *THREE-MONTH* VACATION FOR *TWO* ON A *TROPICAL ISLAND!*

BUT... BUT *HOW?*

THIS *LAST PRIZE* WAS RESERVED FOR THE *FIRST CLUB MEMBER* TO ARRIVE *AFTER* MIDNIGHT!

TO KEEP ANYONE FROM COMING LATE ON *PURPOSE,* WE KEPT THE PRIZE A *SECRET* UNTIL TONIGHT! SINCE EVERYONE WOULD BE *TRYING* TO GET HERE ON *TIME,* WE FIGURED ONLY THE *VERY WORST BAD LUCK* WOULD MAKE SOMEONE ARRIVE *WAY LATE!*

BUT SOMETIMES *BAD LUCK* LEADS TO *GOOD* LUCK IN THE END— *ESPECIALLY* ON NEW YEAR'S DAY, WHEN EVERYONE STARTS *FRESH* AND THE TROUBLES OF THE OLD YEAR ARE *LEFT BEHIND!*

ALAS, ALL THIS *GOOD FORTUNE* MEANS YOU'RE *NO LONGER ELIGIBLE* TO STAY A *S.L.U.G.S.!* BUT YOU'RE *THIS* YEAR'S *UNLUCKIEST* MEMBER!

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

CLAP! CLAP! CLAP!

THE END

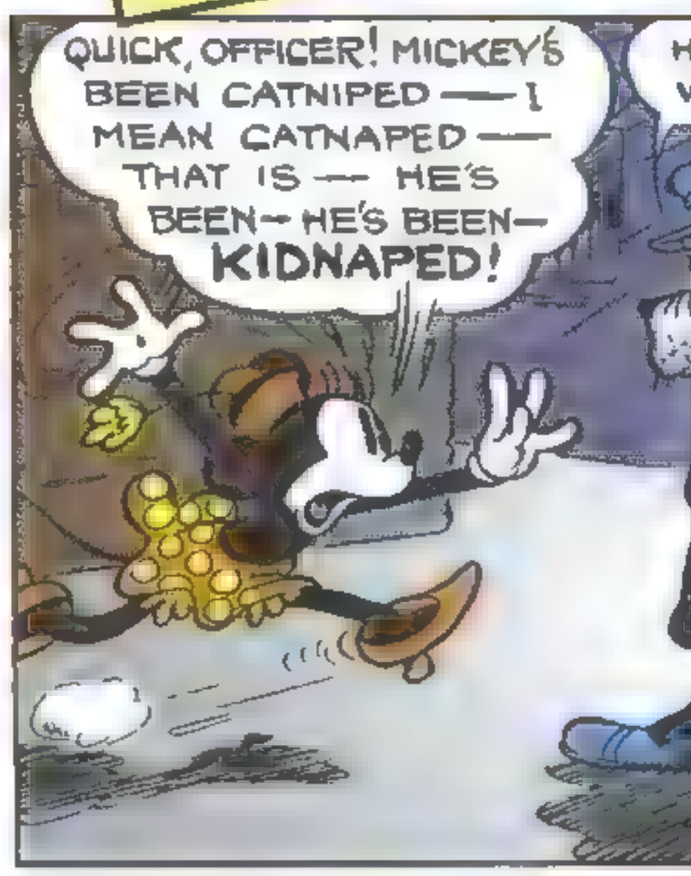
WALT DISNEY'S

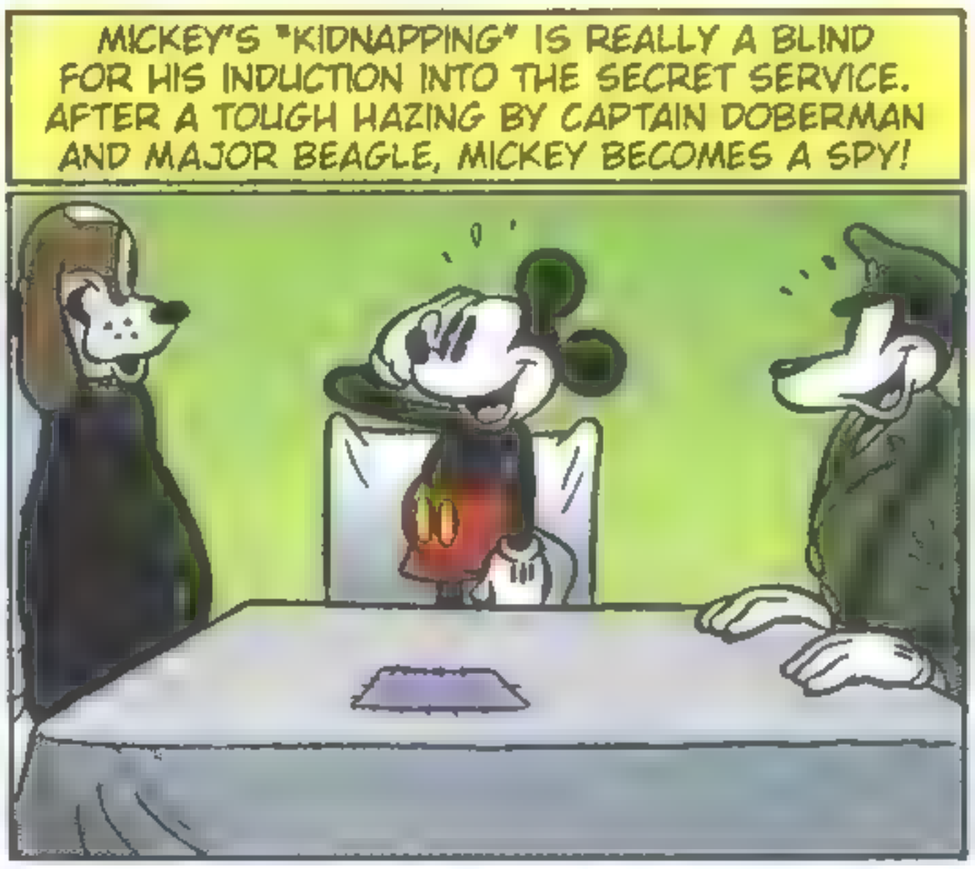
MICKEY MOUSE JOINS THE FOREIGN LEGION!

PART 2 OF 4

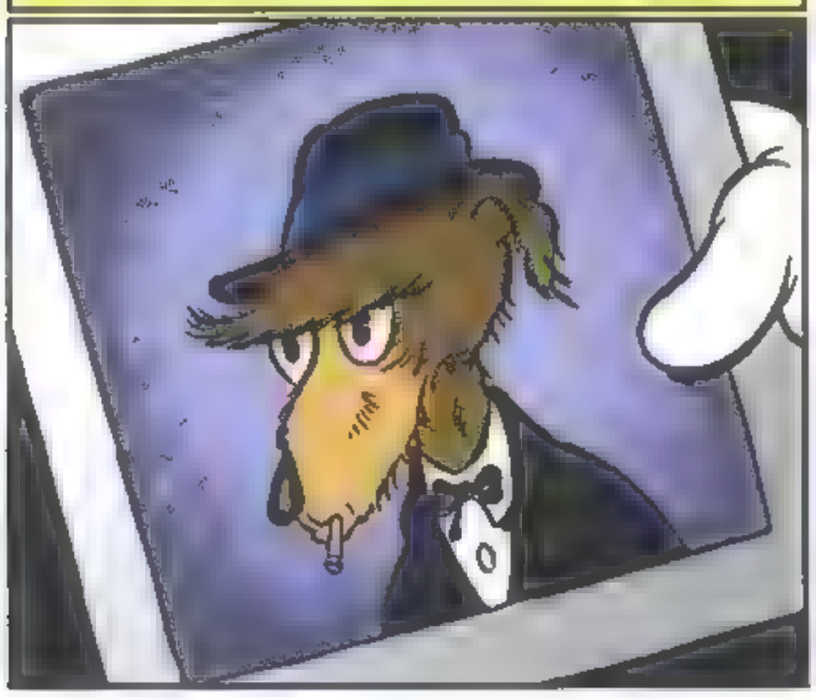
AN UNEVENTFUL EVENING IN MOUSETON GETS ***EVENTFUL*** FAST WHEN MYSTERIOUS FIGURES GRAB MICKEY UP OFF THE STREET AND HUSTLE HIM INTO A WAITING CAR!

MINNIE TAKES THE INCIDENT ABOUT AS CALMLY AS YOU'D EXPECT!




MICKEY'S "KIDNAPPING" IS REALLY A BLIND FOR HIS INDUCTION INTO THE SECRET SERVICE. AFTER A TOUGH HAZING BY CAPTAIN DOBERMAN AND MAJOR BEAGLE, MICKEY BECOMES A SPY!

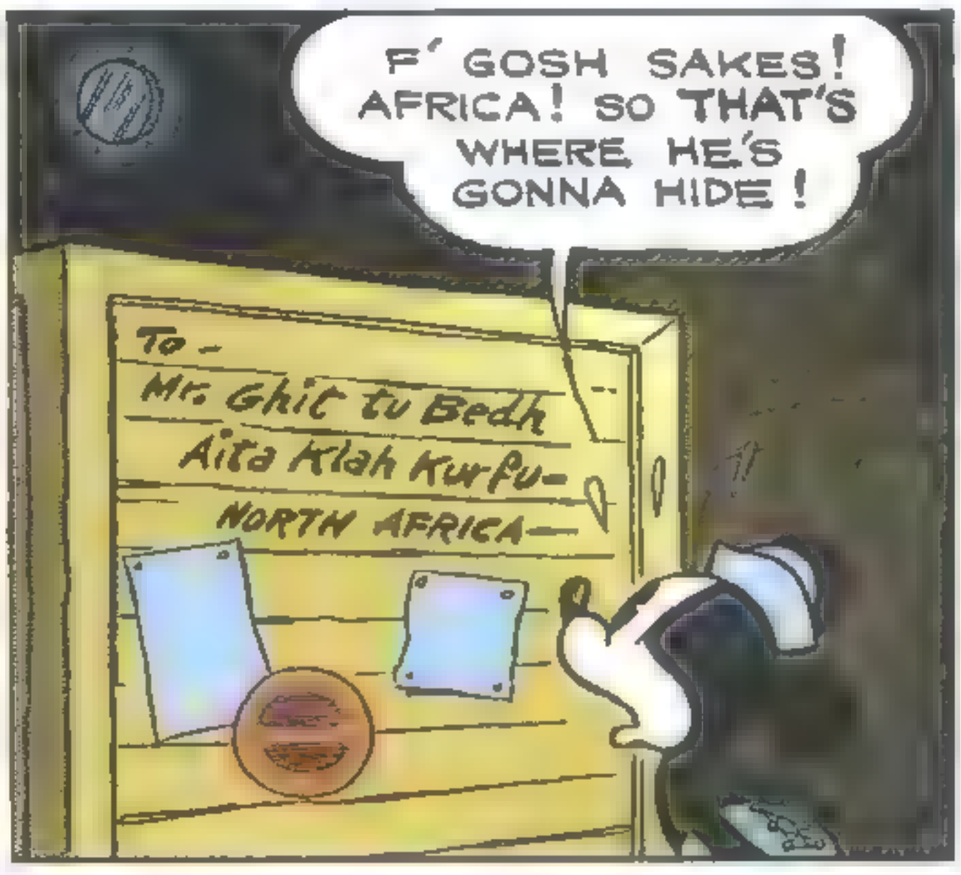
THE ASSIGNMENT: RECOVER SOME HI-TECH GUN BLUEPRINTS STOLEN BY FORMER AGENT ***TRIGGER HAWKES***, JUST NOW DEPARTING MOUSETON BY SHIP.



MICKEY MAKES IT ONTO THE BOAT, BUT IS MISTAKEN FOR A STOWAWAY IN THE PROCESS!

UNABLE TO DISCLOSE HIS SECRET AGENT IDENTITY, OUR HERO IS FORCED TO TOIL AS A DECK-HAND FOR THE DURATION OF THE VOYAGE TO... TO...

HMM! WHERE ***IS*** TRIGGER SAILING?



ON A STEAMER HEADED FOR NORTH AFRICA, MICKEY IS KEEPING A WATCHFUL EYE ON HIS QUARRY, TRIGGER HAWKES!

I WONDER IF HE'S GOT THOSE BLUEPRINTS ABOARD! IF HE HAS, I'M GONNA GET 'EM — OR BUST!

62

HOT DIGGETTY! THAT MUST BE HIS STATEROOM!

WELL — THIS LOOKS LIKE A PRETTY GOOD PLACE FOR ME TO START POLISHIN'!

THERE'S ONE NICE THING ABOUT SHADOWIN' A GUY ON A SHIP — YA KNOW HE CAN'T SLIP AWAY FROM YA IN A TAXI!

WANTING TO SEARCH HAWKES' STATEROOM FOR THE STOLEN BLUEPRINTS AND HAVING NO KEY, MICKEY MUST GET IN BY TRICKERY!

SO, AS HAWKES STARTS TO LEAVE —

?

OH, SIR — JUST A MINUTE, PLEASE, SIR! I WANTED T'THANK YA FOR NOT REPORTIN' ME TO TH' CAPTAIN, SIR!

OH, THAT'S ALL RIGHT! I JUST HAD TOO MUCH ON MY MIND RIGHT THEN!

WELL — IT WAS VERY GOOD OF YA!

CLICK!

AN' I CAN PROMISE — I WON'T FORGET IT!

62

SLAM!

WHILE SEARCHING TRIGGER HAWKES' STATEROOM FOR THE STOLEN GUN PLANS, MICKEY LOOKS UNDER THE MATTRESS, AND —

BY GOLLY! HERE'S SOME PAPERS! ONLY — THEY DON'T LOOK MUCH LIKE BLUEPRINTS!

HIS CREDENTIALS FROM TH' SECRET SERVICE! WHY — HE — HE COULD BE ARRESTED FOR HAVIN' THESE! HE WAS DISCHARGED FROM TH' SERVICE!

ALL I'VE GOT T' DO NOW IS LOCATE TH' BLUEPRINTS — AN' I'VE GOT HIM RIGHT WHERE I —

WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN MY STATEROOM?

ANSWER ME! WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN MY STATEROOM?

WHY — I — YA SEE — THAT IS — I — ER — I WORK ON TH' SHIP — AN' I WAS JUST SORTA CLEANIN' UP YER ROOM!

I — I WAS MAKIN' UP YER BED — AN' WHEN I TURNED TH' MATTRESS, I FOUND THESE PAPERS SAYIN' YOU ARE IN TH' SECRET SERVICE!

YOU MUST BE AWFUL SMART — AN' BRAVE, TOO! YOU'RE PROB'LY ON A BIG CASE NOW, AREN'T YA?

IT MUST BE WONDERFUL, GOIN' TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES - TRAILIN' PEOPLE! I SURE WISH I WAS SMART ENOUGH T' HELP YA!

LISTEN, KID! IF YOU WANT TO HELP ME JUST KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT ABOUT THESE PAPERS! UNDER- STAND?

OH, YES, SIR! I — I UNDERSTAND — **PERFECTLY**, SIR!

CAUGHT RED-HANDED WHILE SEARCHING TRIGGER HAWKES' STATEROOM, MICKEY IS TALKING FAST — AND THINKING EVEN FASTER!

GEE! IT SURE MUST BE WONDERFUL T' BE A BIG SECRET SERVICE MAN LIKE YOU! I SURE DO WISH I COULD HELP YA!

YA KNOW, I—I'M REALLY PRETTY SMART—AN' YA NEVER CAN TELL— I MIGHT MAKE A SWELL ASSISTANT, 'CAUSE NOBODY'D SUSPECT ME!

GOSH! I'LL BE YER SERVANT— EVEN YOUR **SLAVE**—I'LL DO **ANYTHING**— IF YA'LL JUST TELL ME WHAT!

HMMM! MAYBE THAT'S NOT A BAD IDEA AT THAT! MAYBE YOU **COULD** HELP ME!

DO YOU SUPPOSE YOU COULD GET A PACKAGE PAST THE CUSTOMS OFFICIALS WHEN WE DOCK?

A **P-PACKAGE!!** OH, BOY! **COULD I?! JUST TRY ME!!!**

TRIGGER HAWKES, POSING AS A SECRET SERVICE AGENT, HAS APPOINTED MICKEY HIS ASSISTANT!

THE SHIP DOCKS AT 'AITA KLAH KURFU' TONIGHT! THIS IS THE PACKAGE I WANT YOU TO SMUGGLE THROUGH THE CUSTOMS!

SHUCKS! IT'LL BE A **CINCH!**

BUT REMEMBER — **NO SLIPS!** AND IF YOU TRY TO DOUBLE-CROSS ME——

OH, GOSH, SIR! I WOULDN'T **THINK** O' DOIN' THAT TO TH' SECRET SERVICE! NOT ME!

VERY WELL! I WILL MEET YOU IN FRONT OF THE 'TEFIR TOUH HOTEL' AT MIDNIGHT! DON'T FORGET!

YES, SIR! DON'T WORRY! I'LL BE THERE!

62

BOY! WHAT A BREAK! HE'S PLAYING RIGHT INTO MY HANDS!

THE PORT OF AITA KLAH KURFU, NORTH AFRICA!

WITH TRIGGER'S PACKAGE HIDDEN INSIDE HIS SUIT, MICKEY HEADS FOR THE GANGPLANK!

AND WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING?

WELL, YA SEE, TH' SHIP'S ALL DOCKED, SO I JUST THOUGHT I'D TAKE A LITTLE STROLL ASHORE!

IT'S A VERY BALMY EVENING — AN' I'M SURE I'LL ENJOY IT! G'NIGHT, SIR!

LISTEN, STOWAWAY! WE'VE HAD **ENOUGH** TROUBLE WITH YOU!

NOW YOU GET BACK TO YOUR QUARTERS AND **STAY** THERE! YOU'RE NOT GOING ASHORE TONIGHT — OR **ANY** TIME! UNDERSTAND?

BECAUSE STOWAWAYS ARE NOT PERMITTED TO GO ASHORE, MICKEY IS ORDERED BELOW DECKS!

HOWEVER—

BRITCHES, A TURBAN, AND A STUBBLY FACE! IF THEY LOOK REAL ENOUGH, MEBBE I CAN PASS FOR A LOCAL!

STAY IN MY QUARTERS! A FAT CHANCE!

AN' AS SOON AS I GET ASHORE, AN' OFF BY MYSELF, I'LL OPEN THIS PACKAGE AN'—

OATH

OH, MY GOSH! **COPS!**

TRYING TO GET ASHORE BY SLIDING DOWN A ROPE, MICKEY SEES TWO OFFICERS APPROACHING, AND TRIES TO CLIMB BACK!

BUT — TOO LATE!

HAH! WHERE YOU T'INK YOU GO, HEY? COOM HERE, YOU RAGAMUFFIN!

Y-Y-Y-YES, SIR!

SO! YOU TRY SNEAK ON SHIP, HEY? WELL, YOU CAN'T DO EET! BOATS EES NOT FOR YOU!

!

Y-YOU MEAN— I CAN'T GO ON TH' SHIP? I'VE GOTTA STAY ASHORE?

SURE! W'AT YOU T'INK I MEAN? WE ARE TOO ESSMART FOR YOU!

♫♪♫

WHOOPEE! HOTCHA! HOT DIGGETTY DOG! TOWIE!

WHAT A PECULIAR LANGUAGE THE NATIVES SPEAK HEREABOUTS!

HERE'S A GOOD PLACE! NOW TO TAKE A PEEK AT THIS PACKAGE OF TRIGGER'S!

OH, BOY! I CAN HARDLY WAIT! AN' IF TH' STOLEN GUN PLANS ARE IN IT—

AW, F' GOSH SAKES! NUTHIN' BUT A DOGGONED OLD STRING O' DIAMONDS!

HAVING FOUND A DIAMOND NECKLACE INSTEAD OF THE BLUEPRINTS HE HOPED WERE IN THE PACKAGE, MICKEY GOES TO KEEP HIS APPOINTMENT WITH TRIGGER HAWKES!

I SURE WISH HE'D GET HERE! IT MAKES ME NERVOUS, STANDIN' AROUND WITH A MILLION DOLLARS WORTH O' DIAMONDS ON ME!

Tefir Touh Hotel

HALF AN HOUR LATE! SUMPIN' MUST HAVE HAPPENED TO HIM! MEBBE THAT FOREIGN LEGIONNAIRE COULD GIVE ME A CLEW!

PARDON ME, SOLDIER, BUT DID YOU HAPPEN TO SEE—

SHHHHH!—KEEP YOUR VOICE DOWN!

!

DID YOU BRING THE PACKAGE?

MICKEY KEEPS HIS APPOINTMENT, AND FINDS TRIGGER HAWKES DRESSED IN THE UNIFORM OF THE FOREIGN LEGION!

HERE'S YOUR PACKAGE — BUT WHY THE TRICK COSTUME?

SHHHHHH!

IT'S A—A—IT'S A DISGUISE! I'M TRAILING A CRIMINAL! BUT YOU RUN ALONG NOW AND DON'T ASK ANY MORE QUESTIONS!

!

DISGUISE, HUH? I WONDER WHERE HE GOT IT! OVER HERE IT'S DANGEROUS T' WEAR THAT UNIFORM UNLESS— UNLESS—

GOOD GOSH! THAT'S IT! HE SAID HE WAS GONNA HIDE IN TH' BEST PLACE IN TH' WORLD! AN' HE'S DONE IT! HE'S JOINED TH' FOREIGN LEGION!

As TRIGGER HAWKES WALKS ALONG THE STREETS, HE GETS MORE AND MORE IRRITATED AS MICKEY FOLLOWS HIM DOGGEDLY!

LISTEN! YOU GO BACK TO THE BOAT! I'VE GOT BUSINESS TO ATTEND TO!

I CAN'T! I'VE DESERTED! AN' ANYWAY, I'M GONNA HELP YA, ON ACCOUNT OF I'M YER ASSISTANT!

YA SIMPLY CAN'T GET RID OF ME! I'M GONNA FOLLOW YA, NO MATTER WHERE YA GO!

YOU THINK SO, EH?

Foreign Legion

DEPÔT des RECRUES

WELL — YOU'VE GOT A LONG, HOT TRIP — I CAN TELL YOU THAT!

WHOOPEE! THAT'S ALL I WANTED T' KNOW! AN' NOW— T' TELL CAPTAIN DOBERMAN!

Telegraf and Cable Office

MAJOR BEAGLE AND I JUST GOT A CABLE FROM MICKEY! HE'S IN AFRICA! HE SAID TO TELL YOU HE WAS SAFE!

OH, CAPTAIN DOBERMAN! I'M SO GLAD!

BUT IT'S ABOUT TIME HE WAS LETTING ME KNOW! I WAS AWF'LY WORRIED ABOUT HIM!

WELL, DON'T WORRY ANY MORE! HE'S IN THE SECRET SERVICE AND HAS GONE OVER THERE TO FIND A DANGEROUS CRIMINAL!

BUT WHY GO CLEAR TO AFRICA TO FIND CRIMINALS? AREN'T THERE PLENTY IN **THIS** COUNTRY?

YES, BUT, MINNIE— THIS MAN IS A SPECIAL KIND OF A CRIMINAL AND MICKEY IS TERRIBLY ANXIOUS TO GET HIM!

THAT'S JUST LIKE MICKEY! HE'S ENTIRELY TOO PARTICULAR!

'BYE, MINNIE! IF I HEAR ANY MORE FROM MICKEY, I'LL LET YOU KNOW! BUT DON'T WORRY—HE'S PERFECTLY SAFE!

THANKS, CAPTAIN DOBERMAN! I'LL TRY NOT TO!

B-B-BUT I C-CAN'T HELP IT! AND ANYWAY, I HAVE A P-P-PERFECT RIGHT TO WORRY IF I WANT TO!

WELL — WITH TRIGGER IN TH' LEGION, THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO FOLLOW HIM!

PÔT es PUBS

Join THE Legion AND SEE THE DESERT

DÉPÔT des RECRUES

WITH DESERT BANDITS THREATENING, THE LEGION SENDS EVERY AVAILABLE MAN INTO THE DESERT— INCLUDING ALL NEW RECRUITS!

AND TRIGGER IS DELIGHTED!

THE FARTHER I GO, THE BETTER I'LL LIKE IT! I'LL BE HIDDEN WHERE NOT EVEN THE SECRET SERVICE CAN FIND ME!

NOBODY KNOWS ME — EXCEPT THAT LITTLE NUISANCE, MICKEY MOUSE! AND EVEN **HE** DOESN'T KNOW WHERE I AM!

PARDON ME, SOLDIER— HAVE YOU GOT A MATCH YOU CAN SPARE?

NOPE! SORRY! I DON'T SMOKE!

AFTER A LONG, HOT TRIP INTO THE HEART OF THE DESERT, MICKEY ARRIVES AT THE FOREIGN LEGION OUTPOST NEAR THE LITTLE TOWN OF DASSIS ALI!

YOU ALSO ARE TO REPORT TO SERGEANT MAJOR BEAU CHEST! YOU WILL BE IN HIS COMPANY!

PRIVATE MICKEY MOUSE REPORTING, SIR!

WHO?!?

PEGLEG PETE!

WELL, I'LL BE A COCKEYED CAMEL!

I AIN'T PEGLEG PETE NO MORE! IN THE FOREIGN LEGION, THEY CALL ME BEAU CHEST!

OH, YEAH? WELL, I'VE GOT SOME OTHER THINGS T' CALL YOU, AN'——

SHUT UP, PRIVATE! WHAT YUH'RE GONNA CALL ME IS "SIR!" AN' STAND AT ATTENTION! YUH'RE IN TH' ARMY AN' YUH'RE TALKIN' TO A SERGEANT!

!

AN' IF YUH THINK I'M GONNA LET YUH FORGET IT, YUH'RE CRAZY! ATTENTION, I SAY! AN' SALUTE ME!

?

THERE! THAT'S BETTER! IN FACT— IT'S PERFECT! HAW! HAW! HAW!

I DON'T KNOW WHY YUH JOINED TH' LEGION, BUT YER SURE GONNA BE SORRY!—SAY "YES, SIR!"

YES, SIR!

YER GONNA DO TH' TOUGHEST, MEANEST, HOTTEST STRETCH ANY SOLDIER EVER DID! I'LL SEE TO THAT PERS'NALLY!—SAY "YES, SIR!"

YES, SIR!

WHAT'S MORE, NUTHIN' YUH EVER DO WILL SATISFY ME! AN' WHEN I AIN'T SATISFIED, I'LL WHALE TH' HIDE OFFA YUH! UNNERSTAND?

Y-Y-YES, SIR!

O.K.— THEN GET OUT O' HERE!

?

YES, SIR!

YOU SENT FOR ME, PETE?

YEAH, YUH HALF-WITTED, BUNGLIN' NINNY! WHAT'S THE IDEA O' LETTIN' YERSELF GIT FOLLOWED INTO TH' LEGION?

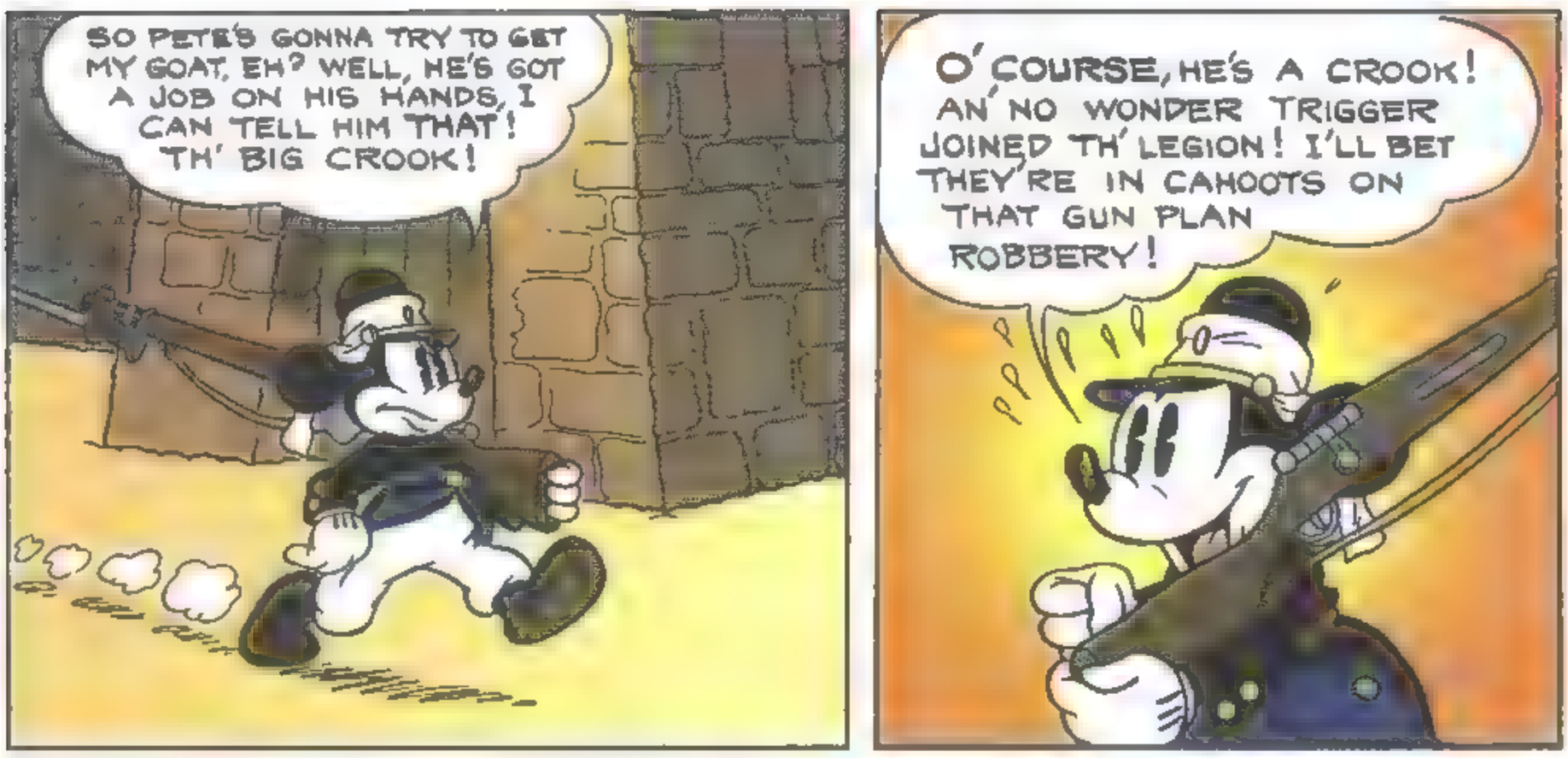
YOU'RE CRAZY! I GOT AWAY SLICK AS A WHISTLE! NOBODY FOLLOWED ME— EXCEPT A RUNT NAMED MICKEY MOUSE!

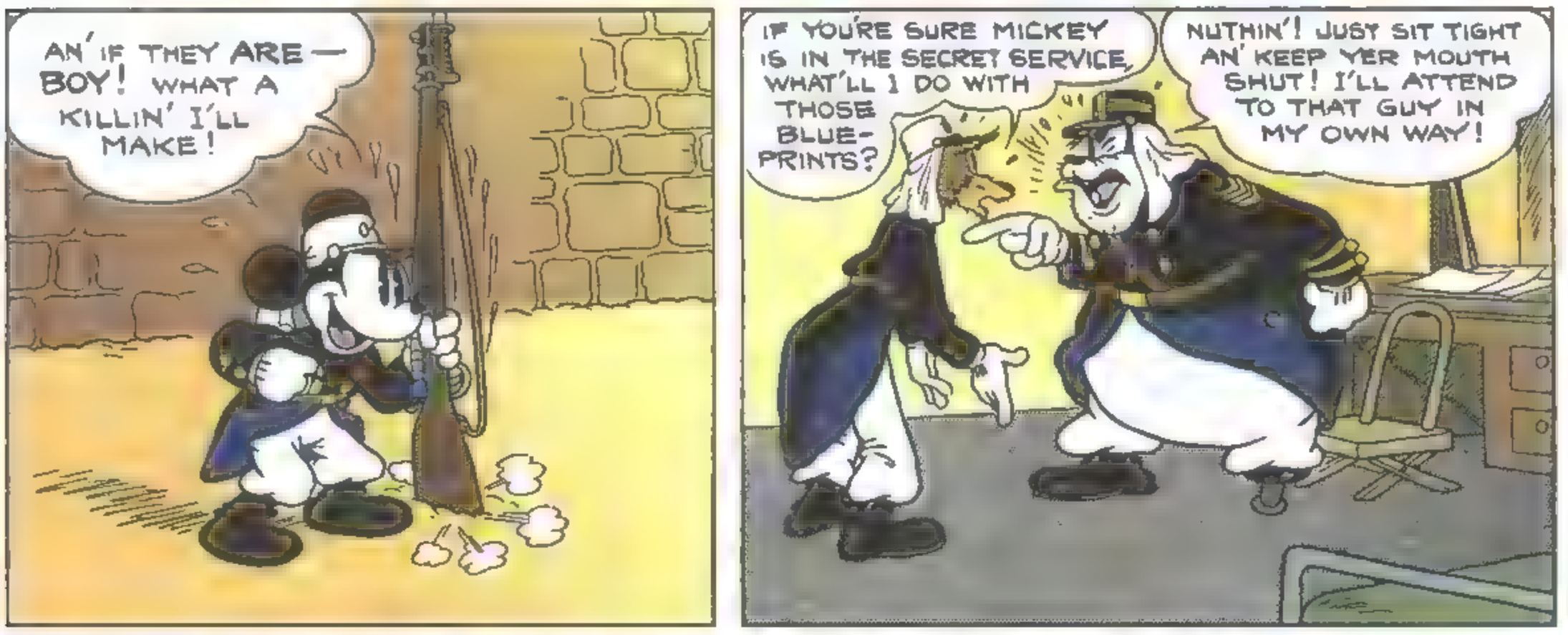
YEAH! EXCEPT A RUNT NAMED MICKEY MOUSE!

LISTEN, YUH DUMB DROMEDARY— THAT GUY HAS TRAILED YUH ALL TH' WAY OVER HERE! AN' TH' REASON WHY IS—

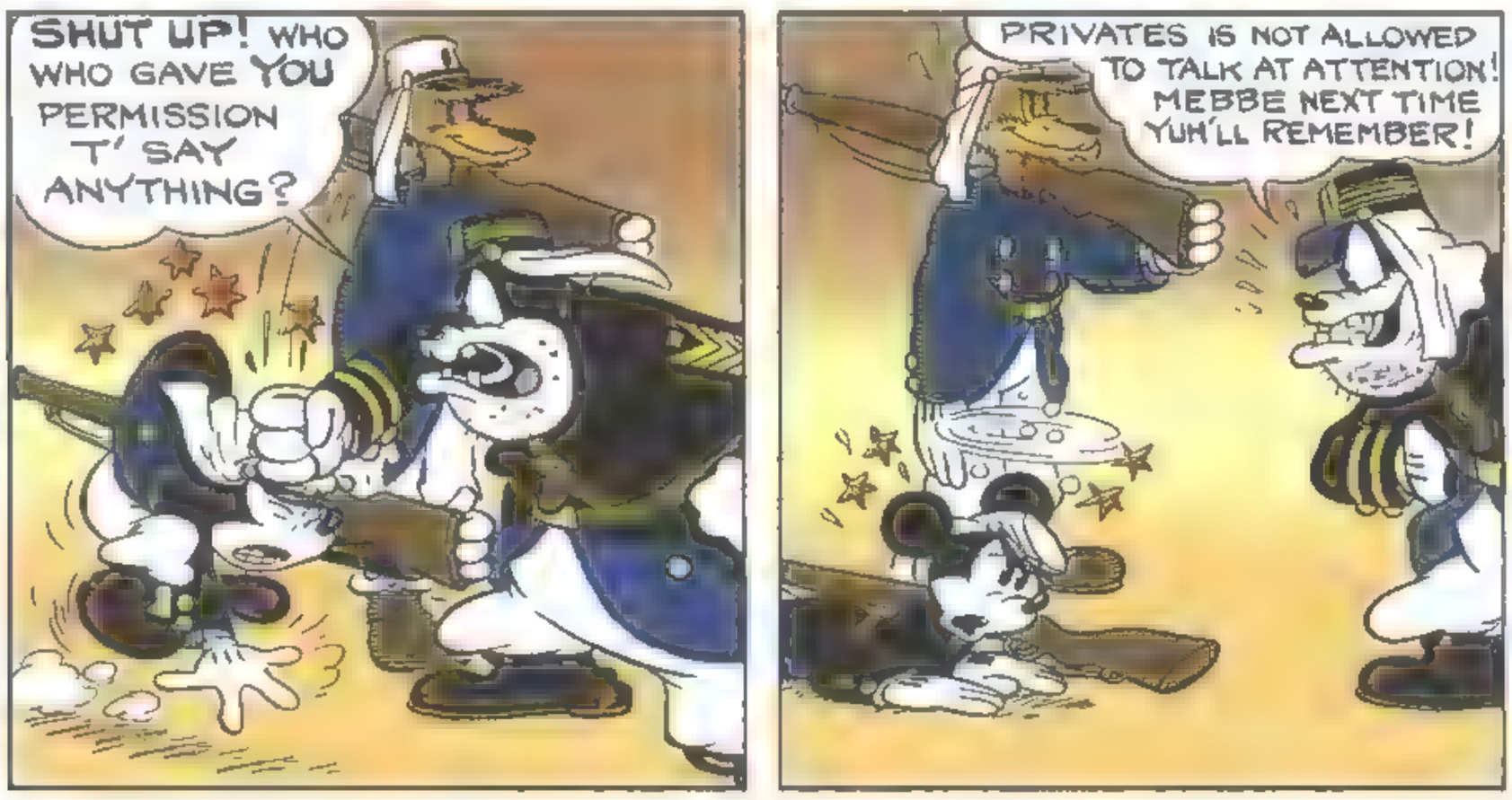
!

HE'S IN THE SECRET SERVICE!


SO PETE'S GONNA TRY TO GET MY GOAT, EH? WELL, HE'S GOT A JOB ON HIS HANDS, I CAN TELL HIM THAT! TH' BIG CROOK!
O' COURSE, HE'S A CROOK! AN' NO WONDER TRIGGER JOINED TH' LEGION! I'LL BET THEY'RE IN CAHOOTS ON THAT GUN PLAN ROBBERY!


AN' IF THEY ARE — BOY! WHAT A KILLIN' I'LL MAKE!
IF YOU'RE SURE MICKEY IS IN THE SECRET SERVICE, WHAT'LL I DO WITH THOSE BLUE-PRINTS?
NUTHIN'! JUST SIT TIGHT AN' KEEP YER MOUTH SHUT! I'LL ATTEND TO THAT GUY IN MY OWN WAY!

THE NEW RECRUITS ARE LINED UP FOR INSPECTION, UNDER THE EAGLE EYE OF SERGEANT PEGLEG PETE, ALIAS BEAU CHEST!
A FINE-LOOKIN' LOT O' SOLDIERS! WHY DON'T THEY SEND ME SOME MEN FOR A CHANGE?
WHAT'D YOU SAY?
WHO, SIR? ME, SIR? WHY— NUTHIN', SIR!


SHUT UP! WHO WHO GAVE YOU PERMISSION T' SAY ANYTHING?
PRIVATES IS NOT ALLOWED TO TALK AT ATTENTION! MEBBE NEXT TIME YUH'LL REMEMBER!

WHILE THE RECRUITS ARE LINED UP FOR INSPECTION, PEGLEG PETE BEGINS HIS PERSECUTION OF MICKEY!

YUH BLASTED SWAB! THAT'S NO WAY TUH HOLD A GUN! GIVE IT TO ME!

NOW LET'S SEE YUH HOLD IT RIGHT! HERE! CATCH IT!

HEY! WHADDAYUH MEAN, FALLIN' OUT O' LINE? GIT BACK THERE OR I'LL KICK TH' DAYLIGHTS OUT O' YUH!

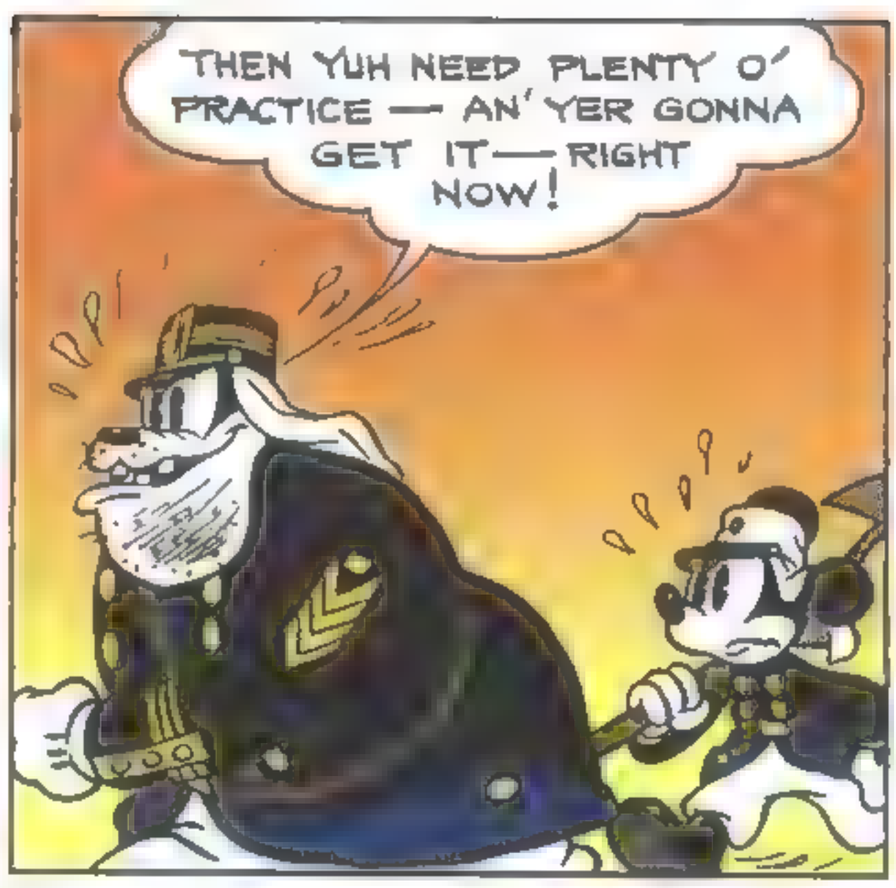
ATTEN-TION!

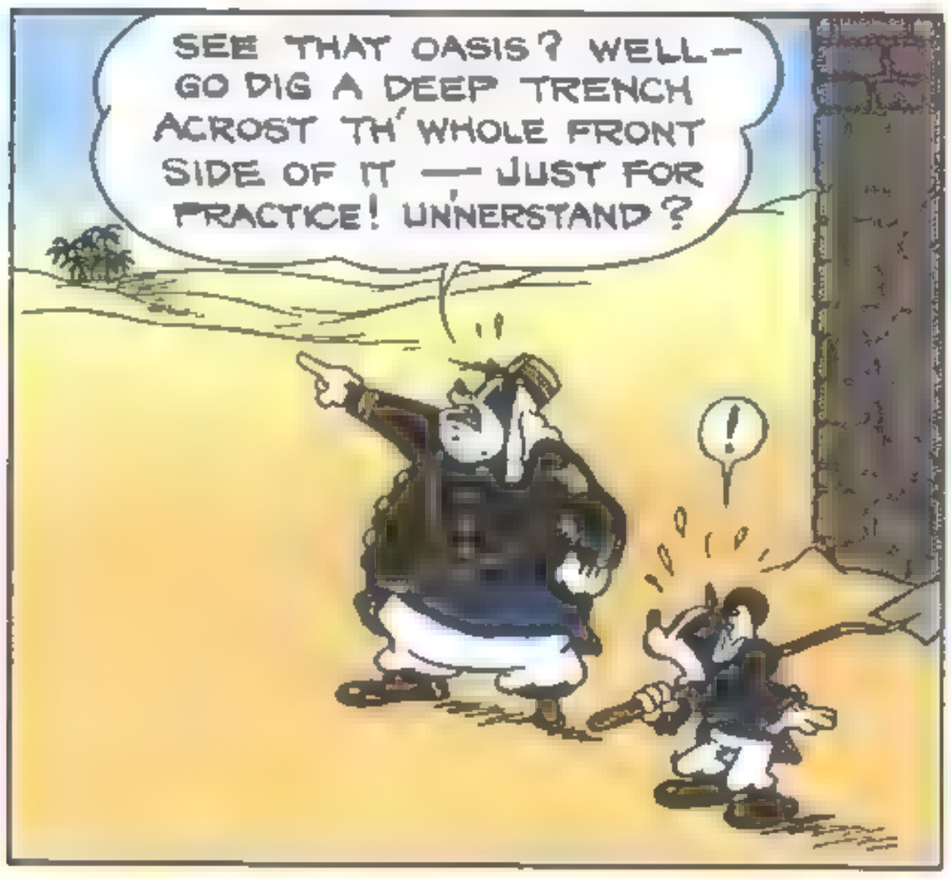
BOY! AM I TIRED! EIGHT HOURS SENTRY DUTY IN TH' BROILIN' SUN IS TOO LONG FOR ANYBODY!

BUT IF I CAN JUST HOLD OUT FOR FIVE MINUTES MORE, I'LL BE ALL THROUGH! AN' THEN—

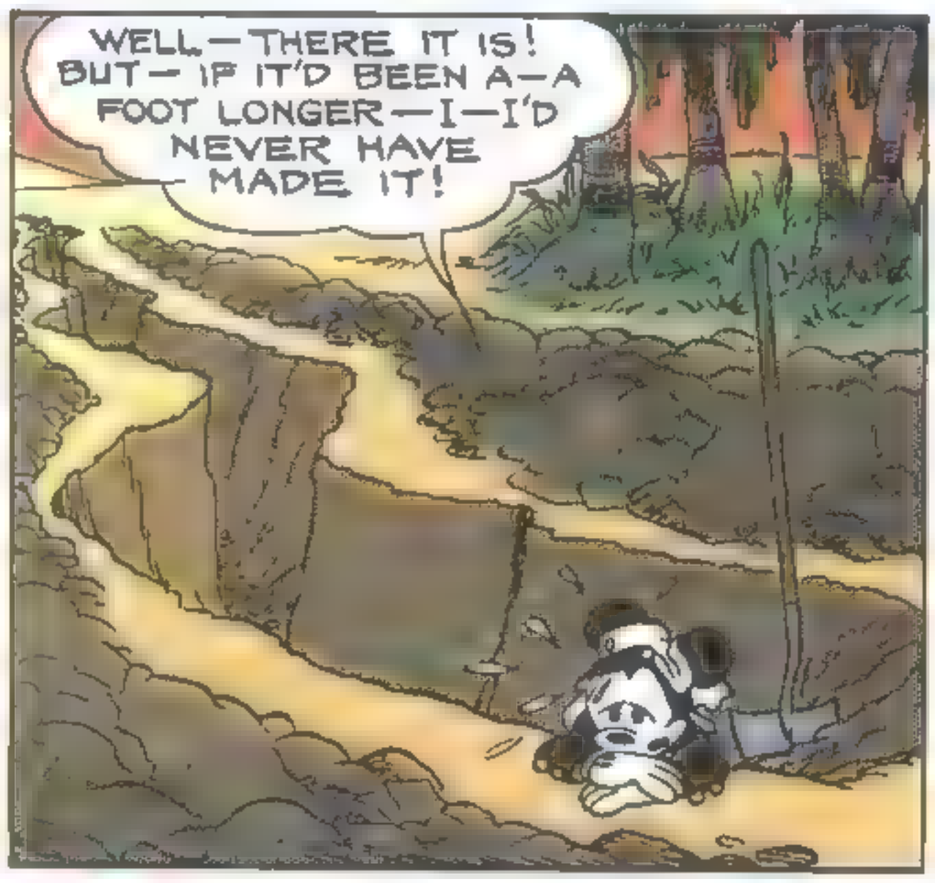
HEY, YUH BLASTED, LAZY, GOOD-FER-NUTHIN' SWAB! GIT MOVIN'— AN REPORT TO TH' COOK! I'VE ASSIGNED YOU TO KITCHEN DUTY!

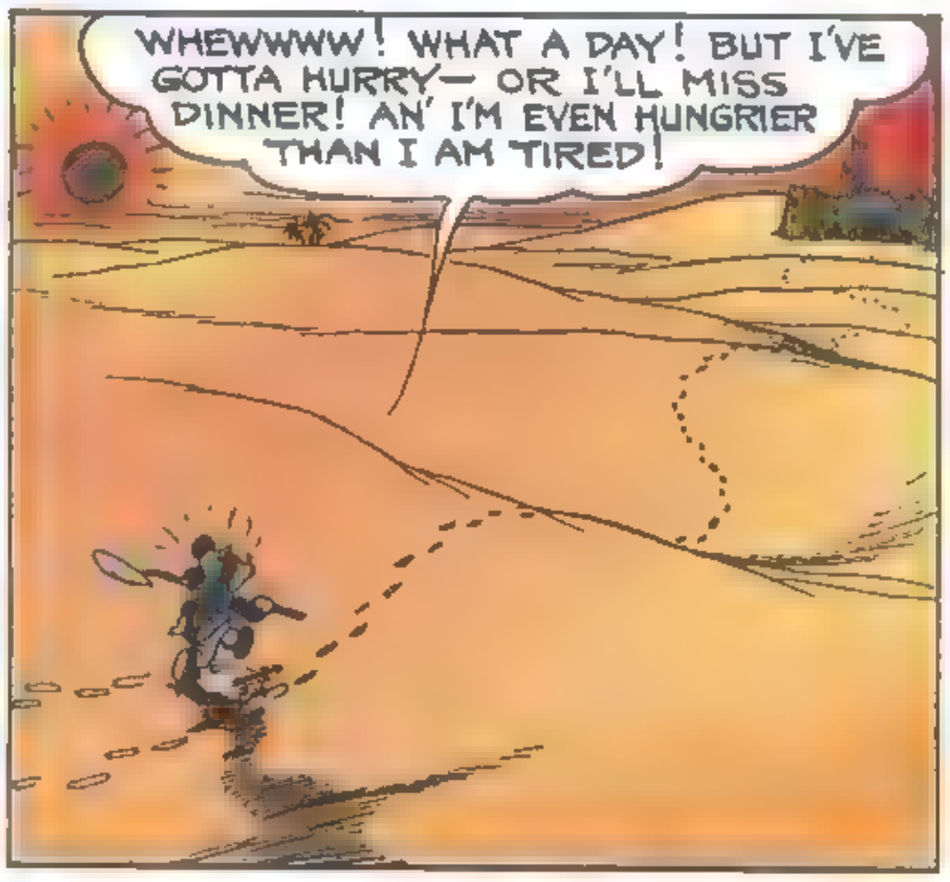
AN' I ALWAYS THOUGHT TH' FOREIGN LEGION WOULD BE ROMANTIC! FOOEY!

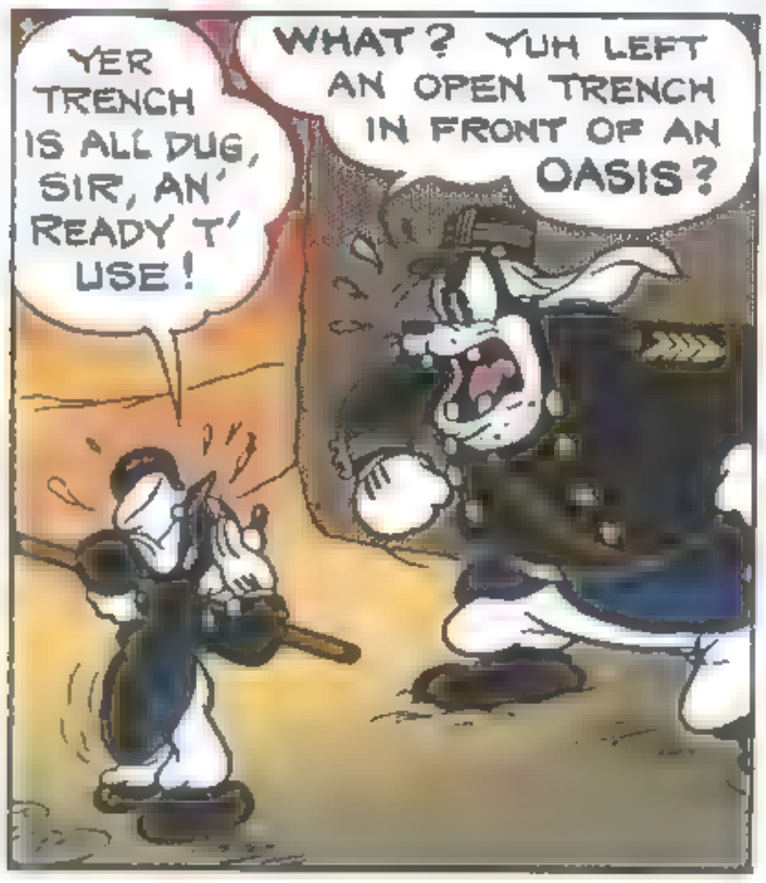




SERGEANT PETE ORDERS MICKEY TO DIG A TRENCH OUT IN THE DESERT— ALONE— UNDER A SCORCHING SUN— JUST "FOR PRACTICE"!







HAVING WORKED ALL DAY TO DIG A TRENCH, MICKEY IS FORCED BY PETE TO WORK HALF THE NIGHT FILLING IT UP AGAIN!

AN' THAT'S THAT!

NOW— IF I CAN JUST— KEEP AWAKE LONG ENOUGH— T' GET BACK TO TH' FORT— I'LL BE O. K.!

HALT! WHO GOES THERE?

PRIVATE MICKEY MOUSE- COMIN' BACK FROM—

SO!!! TRYIN' TUH SNEAK IN AFTER HOURS, HUH? THROW 'IM IN TH' GUARDHOUSE!

?

!

HOW ARE YOU COMING WITH YOUR PLANS TO GET RID OF MICKEY?

SWELL! HE'S DOIN' PRISON DUTY RIGHT NOW— WALKIN' HIS HEAD OFF IN TH' HOT SUN!

TH' WAY I'M PILIN' IT ON 'IM, HE CAN'T POSSIBLY LAST A WEEK! NOBODY COULD!

AN' MY HANDS'LL BE CLEAN, SEE? HE'LL BE JUST ANOTHER WEAK GUY WHO COULDN'T STAND TH' HARDSHIPS O' TH' LEGION!

Z-Z-Z Z Z Z-Z- Z Z Z-Z-Z Z-Z

TO BE CONTINUED!

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THE ORB SAGA: AFTERWORD

First of all, let me say what a treat it is to see "The Orb Saga" finally published here in the good ol' USA. John and the gang at Gemstone have graciously invited me to shed a little light on the genesis of the series. If you haven't read the final two episodes, by all means do so and then skip back to this page! Anyway, here's the story...

Before "Mythos Island" (*Walt Disney's Comics and Stories* 657-661) there was "The Orb Saga." Only that isn't what it was originally called.

It's hard to believe now, but back in 1998-1999 the whole world waited in dread for the arrival of a potentially cataclysmic, earth-altering event... the turn of the millennium. Many feared that computers would crash all around the globe, plunging humankind into a disastrous New Dark Age!

Our editors at Egmont thought it would be a good idea to exploit this mania by crafting a cycle of stories—each self-contained but also connected—to begin in the latter part of 1999 and run weekly right up through the New Year. The tales would slowly unravel an ancient mystery that would ultimately threaten the entire Disney universe on the eve of the millennium! As many of our old pals as possible (Mickey, Donald, etc.) should band together in the climactic episodes to thwart the menace! Did Carol and I want to tackle the job?... In a New York minute! It was a challenge working out the mystery, settling on the connecting McGuffins (the orbs), and creating an appropriately menacing new villain. But the most fun was the character interplay—Minnie teaming up with Daisy, Goofy dancing with Scrooge, Mickey and Donald bickering while they watch each other's backs!

Together, our mouse and duck triumph, making the world safe as a new millennium begins. And that's what we called the project... "The Millenium Adventure!" In 1999, that is. But there was no Gemstone in 1999. Coming to the story years later, how could they make it timely?

Kudos to David Gerstein for his editorial sleight-of-hand. With a minimum of meddling, he has deftly transformed this series into something a bit more timeless and certainly more American. I thank Gemstone for bringing "The Orb Saga" to our shores.

—Pat McGreal

LETTERS

WALT DISNEY'S COMICS AND STORIES #676

E-mail: *wdcs@gemstonepub.com*
Surface mail: *WDC&S, 1966 Greenspring Drive Ste. 400, Timonium MD 21093.*

I guess I'll settle for no William Van Horn when I can get a really great Daan Jippes story instead, like "Deep Un-Pact" in *WDC&S* 672. When it's scripted by Byron Erickson, well, that makes it even better. You just about can't beat either of those guys. This artist/author union brings up a question, though: Why does Jippes need someone to script his stories? Surely he knows English, since at least for awhile he lived in California, and probably learned it anyway growing up in Denmark. Does he not actually write in English? Whatever the reason, he and Erickson came through in fine form.

Evidently Daisy Duck doesn't read *Comics and Stories,* or she would have taken the lesson from Floyd Gottfredson's excellent "Love Trouble" series, and never pulled the found-a-new-boyfriend trick as she does in Pat and Carol McGreal's "A Date with Daisy." Ahh, but those who don't know history, as they say, are doomed to repeat it, and there sat Daisy, dateless, crying at the big ball. But wait, here comes Donald to save the day, and the two lovebirds go off in the sunset... to the Duckburg Hospital. Ah well, the price one pays for love. Good rest of the issue as well.

—Robert Hutchings
via email

Daan Jippes actually grew up in Holland and can speak and write English quite well. Well enough to be easily understood, and well enough to write a script. As a matter of fact, when he and Freddy Milton used to collaborate, they wrote in English as a common language Even so, Byron Erickson and others are often called upon to bring that special feeling of American "duck idiom" to Jippes' work.

Letters selected for publication may be edited for length and/or content.
We regret we cannot respond to individual letters; however questions of general interest will be answered in our letters column.
QUESTIONS ABOUT SUBSCRIPTIONS OR BACK ISSUES? Contact Angie Meyer at mangie@diamondcomics.com
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Walt Disney's Comics and Stories 676, Jan 2007

Donald & Mickey: New Year's Nightmare - Orb Saga pt. 7
Scamp: The Midnight Raider
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Mickey Mouse: The Protector of Shambor pt. 2
Donald Duck: Lucky New Year
Mickey Mouse: Joins The Foreign Legion pt. 2